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GENERAL ZOOLOGY,

or

SYSTEMATIC NATURAL HISTORY

by

GEORGE SHAW, M.D. F.R.S. &c.

WITH PLATES

from the first Authorities and most select specimens

Engraved principally by

Mrs GRIFFITH.

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GENERAL ZOOLOGY.

VOLUME VII.—PART I.

BIRDS.

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1809.

BIRDS.

HAVING in the course of my Zoological Lectures, given a slight general description of Birds, I prefix it, without any material alteration, to the present volume.

In Birds the skeleton or bony frame of the animal is, in general, of a lighter nature than in Quadrupeds, and is calculated for the power of flight: the spine or back bone is immoveable, but the neck lengthened and flexible: the breast-bone very large, with a prominent keel down the middle, and formed for the attachment of very strong muscles: the bones of the wings are analogous to those of the fore-legs in quadrupeds, but the termination is in three joints or fingers only, of which the exterior one is very short. What are commonly called the legs are analogous to the hind-legs in quadrupeds, and they terminate, in general, in four toes, three of

which are commonly directed forwards, and one backwards; but in some birds there are only two toes, and in some only three. All the bones in birds are much lighter, or furnished with a larger cavity than in quadrupeds.

With respect to the definition of a Bird, as absolutely distinguished from all other animals, it would be sufficient to say, according to the old mode, that a Bird is a two-footed, feathered animal. The power of flight need not enter into the definition; for there are many birds which are perfectly destitute of the power of flight; as the Ostrich, the Cassowary, all the Penguins, and some other birds. The feathers with which birds are covered are analogous in their nature to the hair of quadrupeds, being composed of a similar substance appearing in a dissimilar form. Beneath or under the common feathers or general plumage the skin in birds is immediately covered with a much finer or softer feathery substance, called down. The external or common feathers are called by different names on different parts of the animal. The longest of the wing-feathers, which are generally ten in number in each

wing, are called the first or great quills, (in the Linnæan phrase *remiges primores*, as being the chief oars or guiders as it were.) The feathers constituting the middle part of the wing are called the secondaries or second quills, (*remiges secundarii* of Linnæus,) and are more numerous than the first: the feathers descending along each side of the back are called the scapular feathers: the small feathers covering the shoulders are called the smaller wing-coverts, (*tectrices minores*:) the next series to these are called the larger wing-coverts, (*tectrices secundariæ* or majores,) and at the edge of the shoulder are a few rather strong and slightly lengthened feathers, constituting what is called the false or spurious wing; the alula or alulet of some ornithologists. The tail, in most birds, consists of twelve feathers; in some of ten only; and in some others of eighteen, twenty, or twenty-four. Sometimes on each side the tail, or above it, at the lower part of the back, are placed several very long feathers of a different structure from the rest: these have been called the hypochondrial and uropygial feathers. The above are the principal distributions of the feathers on a bird.

With respect to the particular shape of the feathers themselves, they vary greatly in the different tribes.

The particulars most important in the comparative anatomy of birds are these. The heart is furnished with two cavities, or, in the language of anatomists, is bilocular, and the general course of the circulation is carried on as in quadrupeds. The lungs are very large, affixed to the back part of the cavity of the breast, and are furnished with several external orifices, by which the air they contain is at pleasure communicated to other parts of the frame. The throat, after passing down to a certain distance, dilates into a large membranaceous bag, answering to the stomach in quadrupeds: it is called the crop, and its great use is to soften the food taken into it, in order to prepare it for passing into another stronger receptacle called the gizzard: this, which may be considered as a more powerful stomach than the former, consists of two very strong muscles, lined and covered with a stout tendinous coat, and furrowed on the inside: in this receptacle the food is completely ground, and reduced to a pulp: in

the predaceous birds or *Accipitres* the gizzard is wanting; the stomach being more allied to that of quadrupeds.

Birds, as every one knows, are oviparous animals, always producing eggs, from which the young are afterwards excluded. The process of the young in the egg, from the time of its first production to that of its complete formation, is extremely curious and interesting, and may be found detailed with sufficient exactness in the works of Malpighi, Buffon, Monro, and others. I shall only observe on this subject, that the first appearance of the young, as an organized body, begins to be visible in six hours after the egg has been placed in a proper degree of heat; and a particular highly worthy of attention is, that the chick or young bird, when arrived at its full size, and ready for hatching, is by Nature provided with a small, hard, calcareous protuberance at the point or tip of the bill, by which it is enabled the more readily to break the shell, and which falls off some hours after hatching. So careful has Nature been, and so accurately has every circumstance attending the process been foreseen and provided for!

Birds are divided by Linnæus into six Orders or Assortments, viz.

1. *Accipitres* or Predacious Birds, such as Vultures, Eagles, Hawks, Owls, and some others.

2. *Picæ* or Pies, containing all the birds of the Crow and Jay kind, the Parrots, the Woodpeckers, the Kingfishers, and a great variety of others.

3. *Passeres* or Passerine Birds, comprising the Pigeons, the Thrushes, the Larks, and all the Finches or small-birds in general, either with thick or slender bills.

4. *Gallinæ* or Gallinaceous Birds, or such as are more or less allied to the common domestic Fowl, and consequently containing the Pheasant and Partridge tribe, the Peacock, Turkey, and several other birds.

5. *Grallæ* or Waders, consisting of all the Heron tribe, the Curlews, the Plovers, and other numerous tribes which have lengthened legs, and chiefly frequent watery situations.

6. *Anseres* or Web-footed Birds, as the Swan, Goose, and Duck tribe, the Gulls, the Penguins, and many others.

Out of these six Linnæan Orders some ornithologists have instituted a few others, in

order to give a greater degree of clearness and precision to the arrangement of birds; but they cannot be considered as absolutely necessary. Thus the Pigeons have been sometimes considered as properly forming a distinct order of birds, under the title of *Columbæ* or the Columbine Birds, instead of being ranked among the Passeres of Linnæus; and the Ostrich, Cassowary, and Dodo have been supposed to constitute an order called the *Struthious* Order, instead of ranking either among the *Grallæ* or *Gallinæ* of Linnæus.

In the course of the present publication, though the general tenor of the Linnæan and Lathamian divisions will be pursued, yet several variations and transpositions will occasionally take place.

N. B. Wherever a marked line occurs on the plates, it signifies the twelfth part of the length of the bird.

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THE present short course of Lectures is by no means intended as a deeply scientific and elaborate series of zoological disquisitions, but may rather be termed, in the words of Sir Kenelm Digby, "a familiar discourse with Lady-Auditors." The general tenor of the explanations is purposely conducted with as little appearance of the parade of technical terms as possible; and the reader must not expect to find any long dissertations relative to the nature of animal life, any very minute observations relative to the classification of the animal kingdom, and still less any quotations from Aristotle in order to prove that "a man hath ten toes*;" but the whole is merely intended as a plain illustration of the animal world according to the Linnæan mode of arrangement, with some occasional deviations and transpositions.

* Grew, Mus. Reg. Soc.

Dr. SHAW'S ZOOLOGY,

VOL. VIII.

BEING THE SECOND ON THE SUBJECT OF

BIRDS,

WILL BE PUBLISHED IN MAY, 1809.

SKELETON OF FALCO PALUMBARIUS
OR GOSHAWK

1808 Sept.r 1 London Publyshid by G.Kearsley Fleet Street

BIRDS.

ORDER

ACCIPITRES.

VULTUR. VULTURE.

Generic Character.

Rostrum rectum, apice aduncum, basi cute tectum.	*Bill* strait, hooked at the tip, and covered at the base by a cere or skin.
Caput plerisque impenne, antice nuda cute.	*Head*, in most species, bare of feathers, and covered in front by a naked skin.
Lingua carnosa, sæpius bifida.	*Tongue* fleshy, and generally bifid.
Collum retractile.	*Neck* retractile.
Pedes validi, unguibus modice incurvatis.	*Feet* strong, with moderately crooked claws.

THE Vultures, in general, differ from the Eagles in being of a heavier or less active nature, and in their mode of life; commonly preferring dead to living prey, and feeding on the most putrid substances. They are much more common in warm than in cold climates, and may be considered as a

kind of scavengers, wisely appointed by Providence, for clearing away the noxious remains of animal matter.

CONDOR VULTURE.

Vultur Condor. *V. niger, remigibus secundariis albis, caruncula verticali compressa, gula nuda rubra, collo utrinque caruncula to. Museum Leverianum. No. 6, p. 1.*

Black Vultur, with the shorter wing-feathers white; the head furnished with an upright, compressed, fleshy crest or comb; the throat naked and red; the neck carunculated on each side.

Vultur Magellanicus. } *Museum Leverianum. No. 1. p. 1.*
Magellanic Vulture. }

Vultur Gryphus. *V. maximus, caruncula verticali longitudine capitis, gula nuda. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

The chief of the Vulture tribe, if the descriptions given by those who have seen the full-grown bird in its native regions may be depended upon, is undoubtedly the Condor. This bird is a native of many parts of South America, but is supposed to be more frequently seen in Peru than elsewhere. Some authors have affirmed that it is capable of snatching up and carrying off boys of ten years of age and upwards, and that a pair of these destroyers in concert will attack a heifer in the midst of a field, and tear it in pieces with the most perfect ease. In the Phil. Trans. vol. 18, p. 61, is a description of the quills of a bird of this kind which was shot in Chili, and which bird measured sixteen

Male Condor

Griffith, sculp.

feet when the wings were extended. The bird is said to have been coloured black and white like a magpie, and furnished with a sharp, hard crest or comb on the head. Other accounts add that the throat is naked, and of a red colour, and that the neck is surrounded by a white ruff or tippet. The Count de Buffon imagines that these Vultures are not peculiar to America, but that they are sometimes found in Europe, and seems inclined to think that the species called by the Germans Lamnergeyer may be the same bird; but this seems now to be clearly determined in the negative; the Lamner-geyer of the Germans being no other than the Vultur barbatus of Linnæus. The Leverian Museum was in possession of a pair of these noble birds, both of which were brought, at different periods, from the straits of Magellan. Both these specimens were in the most perfect preservation, and were supposed to be male and female. Both have been described by myself in the work entitled Museum Leverianum; the male under its established title of V. Gryphus or Condor; and the supposed female under that of V. Magellanicus or Magellanic Vulture, it having been doubtful at that time whether it was really the Gryphus of Linnæus. The subsequent introduction of the male bird removed all uncertainty. I shall here repeat my former description of these birds.

Male. This magnificent specimen was brought from the Magellanic coasts by Captain Middleton of the Royal Navy, and was soon afterwards introduced into the Leverian Museum.

By this highly interesting specimen we are enabled to ascertain with precision many particulars relative to the appearance of the bird which have hitherto escaped observation. Of these one of the most remarkable is a kind of gular pouch, or large dilated skin, of a blueish colour, proceeding from the base of the lower mandible, and reaching to some distance down the neck. On each side of the neck is also situated a row or series of flat, carneous, semicircular, or ear-shaped flaps or appendages, to the number of seven on each side, and which gradually decrease in size as they descend; being so disposed as to lap slightly over each other. The whole neck and breast are of a red colour, and perfectly bare of feathers; being only coated here and there with a few straggling filaments of blackish hair or coarse down. The colour of the lateral wattles or carunculæ inclines to blueish. The crest or comb on the head is large, upright, thick at the base, sharpened on its edge, and not entirely even in its outline, but somewhat sinuated, sinking slightly in the middle, and rising higher on the back part: it is smooth, and irregularly convex on the sides, and in its texture or substance not greatly dissimilar to that of the V. Papa of Linnæus, or King Vulture. At a slight distance behind this, on each side, is situated a much smaller, semi-oval nuchal crest, of a similar substance, and beset with coarse down. The colour of the crest is blackish, slightly inclining to red and blue in some parts. Towards the lower part of the neck is a pendent pear-

Owen sculp

FEMALE CONDOR

1808 Oct.r 1. London Published by C Kearsley Fleet Street.

shaped tubercle: the lower part of the neck is surrounded by a collar of milk-white down or fine plumes representing exactly a tippet of white fur. The extent of the bird, from wing's end to wing's end was said to be more than twelve feet when measured immediately after it was shot*.

This specimen affords an opportunity of correcting a very important error in the descriptions of the Condor given by general observers, who seem to have described it from a cursory view, either from the living bird when seated at some distance with its wings closed, or from too inattentive a survey of a dead specimen. Such descriptions tell us that the back of the bird is white, which on the contrary, is coal-black; an error most evidently owing to having seen the bird with the wings closed over the back, so that the white secondaries covered it from view. This erroneous description is copied by Dr. Gmelin, in his new edition of the Systema Naturæ of Linnæus, from Molina, who has given a similar one himself. Molina's description seems also to have misled Mr. Latham, who in his Index Ornithologicus has described the Condor as having the back white instead of black. I must add that in these descriptions the tail is expressly said to be small, which on the contrary, is rather large in proportion to the bird.

Female? This, like the former, was brought from

* It was indeed said by some who had seen it killed to have measured fourteen feet, but this I always considered as a mistake.

the straits of Magellan by Captain Middleton, and the circumstance of its not having the least appearance of a comb on the head, together with some other particulars incline me to suppose it either a young bird or a female. The extent of its wings from tip to tip is not far short of ten feet: the beak is of a dark lead-colour, and grows gradually whitish towards the tip: the head and neck are destitute of feathers, but are covered with a short, straggling sort of hairy down: the top of the head inclines to a dark colour, but the rest of the neck is paler, and I make no doubt but that in the living bird it was of a reddish colour. Towards the lower part of the neck, where it joins the shoulders, is a ruff or circle of white downy feathers, exactly resembling the appearance of rabbits' fur; and beneath the breast is a considerable bare space: all the rest of the bird is black, except the shorter or secondary wing-feathers, which are white with black tips: the legs and feet are blackish, very strong, but the claws not much incurvated: the tail even at the end, and very slightly rounded at the sides. On comparing the remiges or wing-feathers of this bird with some of those which were brought over by Mr. Byron as those of the real Condor, I found them to be exactly similar except in size.

I cannot but add, that in both the above specimens the physiognomy of this bold and formidable Vulture is not of a ferocious cast, but rather exhibits an appearance almost bordering on mildness.

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Heath sculp.

MALE CONDOR *from Humboldt*

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In the Index Ornitholgicus of Mr. Latham it is stated that the Female Condor differs from the Male in being of a brown colour instead of black; that it is larger than the male, and has no ruff or collar round the neck. If this statement be correct, it is evident that the individual above described must rather be considered as a young or unadvanced specimen of the Male bird, unless we rather consider it as a distinct species, in which case the name of Vultur Magellanicus by which it was at first described in the Museum Leverianum may be still retained; but on the subject of the Condor, we wait with impatience the promised publication of the remaining volumes of Mr. Humboldt's interesting travels, in which an accurate history and representation of this bird may doubtless be expected.

Since the above was written I have had the satisfaction of seeing Monsieur Humboldt's account of the Condor, and find that, from the general tenor of his description and observations, little need be added to what I have before stated. Monsieur Humboldt however is inclined to deduct something from the general statements which have been given of the size of this bird, having himself seen no specimens which have exceeded three feet three inches in length, and eight feet nine inches in extent from wing's end to wing's end. Monsieur Humboldt however admits that the Condor may

sometimes be supposed to arrive at a much greater magnitude, and to measure in extent of wings eleven or twelve feet. He informs us that its usual residence is among lofty rocks on the region of the Andes just below the boundaries of perpetual snow, and that it may be considered as a co-inhabitant with the Guanaco. It is a bird of a solitary nature, and it is a rare circumstance to see more than three or four together. When seated on the point of a rock, and viewed from below, its form being then contrasted with the clear sky above, it appears considerably larger than it *really* is; and this, according to Monsieur Humboldt, may have been one cause of the exaggerated accounts of earlier describers. The prevailing colour of the Condor is generally a deep raven-grey, but sometimes black: the crest, which is fleshy, or rather cartilaginous, occupies the top of the head and about a fourth part of the beak, and is entirely wanting in the female: the skin of the neck is dilated under the throat into a gular caruncle or wattle, and along or down the sides of the neck runs a wrinkled skinny stripe or band, the processes of which are variously moveable at the pleasure of the animal. The young Condor is entirely naked of feathers, being covered, for several months, with a fine whitish down, but which is so full or thick as to give the young birds the appearance of being almost as large as the old ones. At the age of two years they have no black plumage, but only tawny brown, and the female during this

period has no collar round the bottom of the neck. Nothing can exceed the sagacity with which the Condor perceives the scent of its prey at a distance, or the boldness with which it flies down to seize it. It preys both on dead and living animals, and two birds will seize on a heifer, and begin their work of destruction by picking the eyes and tearing the tongue out.

A method of taking Condors alive is often practised in Peru and Quito, and is as follows, viz. A cow or horse is killed; and in a little time the scent of the carcase attracts the Condors, which are suddenly seen in numbers in places where no one would suppose they existed. They always begin with the eyes and tongue, and then proceed to devour the intestines, &c. When they are well sated, they are too heavy and indolent to fly, and the Indians take them easily with nooses. When thus taken alive, the Condor is dull and timid for the first hour, and then becomes extremely ferocious. Monsieur Humboldt had one in his possession for some days, which it was dangerous to approach. The Condor is extremely tenacious of life, and will survive for a long time such wounds as might be supposed to prove immediately fatal; and such is the fullness of its plumage that it has the power of resisting or repelling the force of a ball fired at it from a gun. This indeed is not peculiar to the Condor, but has been observed in some other well-feathered and thick-skinned birds, particularly those of the order *Anseres*.

The elegant figure of the Condor given by Monsieur Humboldt is copied into the present work, in order that nothing might be wanting for as full an elucidation of this interesting species as could be obtained from modern authors. The reader will observe that the figures of the preserved specimen from the Leverian Museum leave no room to doubt the identity of the bird. With respect to the measures attributed by the preparer of those specimens, I have hinted above that I cannot but think them something, though perhaps not very much exaggerated. The unfortunate dispersion of that celebrated collection, which so long done honour to England, makes it impossible to ascertain the size by fresh admeasurement. It is said that both specimens were purchased for the Emperor of Austria, and I recommend their more complete investigation to the naturalists of Vienna.

CALIFORNIAN VULTURE.

Vultur Californianus. *V. niger, rostro albido, capite colloque denudatis pallidis, torquis pectorisque plumis lanceolatis.*

Black Vulture, with whitish beak; the head and neck unfeathered and of a pale colour; the plumes of the collar and breast lanceolate. *Naturalist's Miscellany, vol. 9. pl. 301.*

This species was first described by myself in the 9th volume of the Naturalist's Miscellany.

one of the largest of the genus, and even approaches nearly to the size of the Condor. Its colour is black, but the tips of the last or interior secondary remiges which lap over the back are whitish, especially on the interior edge: the covert-feathers of the wings are of a brownish tinge towards their edges: the head and neck are naked, or very sparingly sprinkled in some parts with a kind of setaceous down: the colour of the neck is reddish, inclining to blueish on each side: the head is blackish at the top and back part, as well as round the beak, which extremely resembles that of the Condor in shape and colour, and is rather obtuse at the extremity. The head is entirely void of any carunculated appearance, but the occiput or back part is marked by a dark patch or zone which seems to rise a little above the surface. The lower part of the neck is surrounded by a ruff or wreath of lanceolate black plumes, the fibres of which have a kind of setaceous or horny appearance. The feathers of the breast, abdomen, and thighs are of the same structure and shape in proportion to their size. The legs and feet resemble those of the Condor, but the claws are much sharper, longer, and of a more curved form. The wings are long: the tail large and of a squarish shape; the legs and claws black. It may be added that the under surface of the shafts of the wing-feathers are of the same complexion with those of the Condor, viz. whitish, with numerous arrow-shaped transverse marks or bars.

This Vulture was brought over by Mr. Menzies during his expedition with Captain Vancouver, from the coast of California, and is now in the British Museum.

BEARDED VULTURE.

Vultur barbatus. *V. fusco-nigricans, subtus subfulvus, capite colloque plumis lanceolatis albidis, rostro subtus barbato.*
Blackish-brown Vulture, subfulvous beneath, with the head and neck covered by lanceolate whitish plumes, and the bill bearded beneath.
Vultur barbatus. *V. albidus, dorso fusco, gula barbata incarnato, capite linea nigra cincto. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Bearded Vulture. *Edwards. pl.* 106.
Vultur barbarus. } *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Vultur barbatus. }

This is one of the largest of the European Vultures, and is principally observed among the Alps of Swisserland, where it is known by the name of Lammer-Geyer or Lamb-Vulture, though this title seems not to be absolutely confined to the present species, but to be occasionally applied to any large predaceous bird. This Vulture is figured and slightly described in the works of Gesner, under the title of *V. aureus**. It is superior in size to the Golden Eagle, and is generally of a dark or blackish brown colour above, and pale rufous beneath; but in this respect it occasionally

* Gesn. av. p. 748.

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BEARDED VULTURE.
from Edwards

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varies, being sometimes nearly white beneath, or of a pale chesnut-colour. The head and neck are not bare, but covered with narrow or slender plumes of a whitish colour; and beneath the base of the lower mandible is situated a large, lengthened and pointed tuft of black hairs or very slender setaceous plumes, from which circumstance the name of Bearded Vulture is particularly applied to the present species.

Since the time of Gesner this Vulture seems to have been but indistinctly known to naturalists till the publication of the third volume of Edwards's ornithological work, in which it is admirably figured, and described in the plain and simple style of that honest observer, whose accuracy may often be more safely depended upon than the more ornamented narratives of superior writers. "This bird (says Edwards) is of the bigness of an Eagle: broad-ways it measures seven feet and a half, the wings being extended; from bill-point to tail-end it measures three feet four inches; from bill-point to the end of the claws but two feet eight inches. The wing when closed measures two feet four inches; the prime quills are more than twenty-three inches long. The bill is of a purple flesh-colour, darker towards the point than at the base: from its point to the angle of the mouth it measures four inches: it extends itself in length a little before it bends into a hook, which is one of the principal distinctions between the Eagle and the Vulture kind; the Eagle's bill always begins to be arched at its base, and continues so to its point.

From the root of the lower mandible of the bill it hath a remarkable tuft of black feathers, for which reason I have called it bearded: the mouth is blue within side: the eyes are placed just above the slits of the mouth; the circle round the eye is of a bright yellow, and without that is another circle, being a fine deep red skin, that is firmly fixed on the ball of the eye: the sides and forepart of the head are black, which blackness encompasses the eyes and shews them to advantage: the nostrils are covered with stiff black feathers: from behind each eye extends a black line, which bends upwards and meets in the hinder part of the head: it hath also a dash of black from each corner of the mouth, which tends a little downward in the form of whiskers: the rest of the head, and the whole neck are covered with white feathers, short on the head, but long, loose, and pointed on the neck, like those on a cock's neck. The upper side, back, wings, and tail are of a dark colour between brown and black: the lesser covert-feathers of the wings have dashes of bright reddish-brown down their shafts, very narrow: the edges of the feathers on the whole upper side are something lighter than the other parts of the feathers: the greater feathers of the wings and tail have their shafts white: the middle feathers of the tail are something longer than the side feathers: the insides of the wings are coloured as they are without, except that the dashes down the shafts of the covert-feathers are larger and whiter. It hath a space under each wing covered only with white down, of the

bigness of a man's whole hand: the bottoms or roots of the feathers all over the bird are white: it hath also a very thick, soft, white down all over the body under its feathers. The under side, breast, belly, thighs, and coverts under the tail are white, a little tinctured with reddish-brown: the legs are covered with short, white, downy feathers, which are, when it perches, covered by the longer feathers of the thighs: the feet are of a lead-colour, the claws dusky, the middle and outer toes on each foot are joined by a strong skin."

The individual above-described by Edwards was brought, as he informs us, from Santa Cruz on the Coast of Barbary. It appears to be a native of many of the wilder regions both of Asia and Africa, and seems to be recorded by the celebrated Mr. Bruce under the name of *Nisser Werk**. Mr. Bruce's description affords a striking instance of its boldness and voracity. Mr. B. erroneously calls it an Eagle. His description runs as follows.

"He is called by the vulgar *Abou Duch'n*, or Father Long-Beard, which we may imagine was given him from the tuft of hair he has below his beak. I suppose him to be not only the largest of the Eagle kind, but surely one of the largest birds that flies. From wing to wing he was eight feet four inches. From the tip of his tail to the point of his beak, when dead, four feet seven inches. He weighed twenty-two pounds, and was very full of flesh. He seemed remarkably short in the legs,

* Bruce. Trav. append. p. 155. pl. opposite ditto.

being only four inches from the joining of the foot to where the leg joins the thigh, and from the joint of the thigh to the joining of his body six inches. The thickness of his thigh was little less than four inches; it was extremely muscular, and covered with flesh. His middle claw was about two inches and a half long, not very sharp at the point, but extremely strong. From the root of the bill to the point was three inches and a quarter, and one inch and three quarters in breadth at the root. A forked brush of strong hair, divided at the point into two, proceeded from the cavity of his lower jaw at the beginning of his throat. He had the smallest eye I ever remember to have seen in a large bird, the aperture being scarcely half an inch. The crown of his head was bare or bald, so was the front where the bill and scull joined."

"This noble bird was not an object of any chace or pursuit, nor stood in need of any stratagem to bring him within our reach. Upon the highest top of the mountain Lamalmon, while my servants were refreshing themselves from that toilsome rugged ascent, and enjoying the pleasure of a most delightful climate, eating their dinner in the outer air, with several large dishes of boiled goats flesh before them, this enemy, as he turned out to be to them, appeared suddenly; he did not stoop rapidly from a height, but came flying slowly along the ground, and sat down close to the meat within the ring the men had made round it. A great shout, or rather cry of distress, called me to the

place. I saw the Eagle stand for a minute, as if to recollect himself, while the servants ran for their lances and shields: I walked up as nearly to him as I had time to do. His attention was fully fixed upon the flesh. I saw him put his foot into the pan where was a large piece in water prepared for boiling, but finding the smart which he had not expected, he withdrew it, and forsook the piece which he held. There were two large pieces, a leg and a shoulder, lying upon a wooden platter; into these he trussed both his claws, and carried them off, but I thought he looked wistfully at the large piece which remained in the warm water. Away he went slowly along the ground as he had come. The face of the cliff over which criminals are thrown, took him from our sight. The Mahometans that drove the asses, who had, as we have already observed, in the course of the journey, suffered much from the Hyæna, were much alarmed, and assured me of his return. My servants, on the other hand, very unwillingly expected him, and thought he had already more than his share. As I had myself a desire of more intimate acquaintance with him, I loaded a rifle-gun with ball, and sat down close to the platter by the meat. It was not many minutes before he came, and a prodigious shout was raised by my attendants, He is coming, he is coming, enough to have discouraged a less courageous animal. Whether he was not quite so hungry as at the first visit, or suspected something from my appearance, I know not, but he made a small turn, and sat down about ten

yards from me, the pan with the meat being between me and him. As the field was clear before me, and I did not know but his next move might bring him opposite to some of my people, and so that he might actually get the rest of the meat and make off, I shot him with the ball through the middle of his body about two inches below the wing, so that he lay down upon the grass without a single flutter. Upon laying hold of his monstrous carcase, I was not a little surprised at seeing my hands covered and tinged with a yellow powder or dust. Upon turning him upon his belly, and examining the feathers of his back, they produced a brown dust, the colour of the feathers there. This dust was not in small quantities, for, upon striking his breast, the yellow powder flew in fully greater quantity than from a hair-dresser's powder-puff. The feathers of the belly and breast, which were of a gold-colour, did not appear to have any thing extraordinary in their formation, but the large feathers in the shoulder and wings seemed apparently to be fine tubes, which upon pressure scattered this dust upon the finer part of the feather, but this was brown, the colour of the feathers of the back. Upon the sides of the wing, the ribs or hard part of the feather seemed to be bare, as if worn, or, I rather think, were renewing themselves, having before failed in their function."

There is little doubt but that this species is twice particularized in the Gmelinian edition of the Systema Naturæ of Linnæus under the names of *Vultur barbatus* and *Vultur barbarus*. In this the

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Griffith. sculp.

BEARDED VULTURE.

Gypaete des Alpes from Dandin

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Griffith sculp.

MONK VULTURE

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author has followed the example of some preceding writers, who have unnecessarily divided the casual varieties of this bird into distinct species. Mr. Latham in his *Index ornithologicus* has followed Gmelin in this separation of characters, but in the second Supplement to his Synopsis of Birds he has very properly united them under the name of the Bearded Vulture.

The Count de Buffon, apparently misled by the general accounts of its size and manners, erroneously supposes this bird to be the same with the Condor, which he therefore imagines to be common both to the old and new world. The Bearded Vulture is said to build in the inaccessible cavities of lofty rocks, and is sometimes observed to assemble in small flocks about the mountainous regions of the countries it inhabits.

MONK VULTURE.

Vultur Monachus. *V. fuscus, torque cervicali extensa, crista, occipitali plumosa.*
Brown Vulture, with lengthened ruff, and downy occipital crest.
V. Monachus. *V. vertice gibboso, corpore nigro. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Percnopteros, Gypaetos, &c. *Aldr. orn.* 1. *p.* 218.
Vautour, ou Grand Vautour. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 158.? *Pl. Enl.* 425.?
Cinereous Vulture. *Lath. syn.* 1. *p.* 14.?
Arabian Vulture. *Lath. syn.* 1. *p.* 8.
Crested black Vulture. *Edw. pl.* 290.

Several of the Vulture tribe, those more particularly which have a naked or downy neck, are

furnished towards the lower part with a kind of plumy ruff or collar, owing to a duplicature of the skin in that part, beset on its edges either with long, lanceolate plumes, or merely with a kind of long down, as in the Condor. The present species exhibits more strikingly than most others this particular conformation: the loose skin with its plumy ruff appearing in certain attitudes of the bird not unlike a monk's cowl thrown backward on the shoulders. This bird though it seems to have been known to Aldrovandus, appears to have been but little understood by succeeding ornithologists, and, like the Bearded Vulture above described, has been formed into two or three imaginary species by different authors. The description of Aldrovandus, probably from a young or small specimen, is as follows. From the tip of the bill to the end of the tail it was by measure three spans: the bill was long, but for the most part covered with a skin or membrane, so that about an inch only of the tip remained bare; the hooked end being small and slender: the head was bald or destitute of feathers to the hind part, so that the feathers standing up behind the crown resembled a monk's hood put back and leaning on his neck when he goes with his head uncovered. The colour of almost all the feathers of the whole body was dusky, inclining to dark chesnut, only interrupted by a continued series of whitish feathers on the lower part of the neck, making an acute angle, the point running down the middle of the back, and forming as it were the acuminated part of the

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CRESTED BLACK VULTURE.
from Edwards

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monk's hood, hanging from the shoulders down the middle of the back; while another similar series of whitish feathers terminating in an acute angle about the middle of the back covered all the lower part of the back toward the complications of the wings, forming a kind of cloak: the tail was broad and of a middling size; the feet dusky, and covered with scales: the beak and claws were of a dusky horn-colour: the feathers on the thighs reached no lower than the knees. This bird, according to Aldrovandus, was taken on the Alpine mountains of the town of *Giulia*.

Monsieur Sonnini, in his elegant and useful edition of the Natural History of the Count de Buffon, imagines, and even roundly asserts, that this bird is no other than the *Vautour* or *Grand Vautour* of Buffon, figured at No. 425 of the Planches Enluminées; and that the description, or rather the figure given by Edwards has caused the mistake of other writers, who have conceived the head to be furnished with a tuber or callosity instead of a downy tuft.

The description of Edwards informs us that this species "is a very large bird, exceeding the size of a common Eagle by a third part: the beak is longer than in the Eagle, without angles on the edges of the upper mandible, and of a black or dusky colour towards its point: its basis is covered with a light blueish skin, in which the nostrils are placed: the head and part of the neck are covered with short downy feathers of an ash-colour, white round

the eyes and on the cheek: the iris of the eye is of a dark hazel colour: it hath a roundish tuft or crest arising from the hinder part of the head: the lower part of the neck is surrounded with long, loose feathers of an ash-colour, which form a kind of ruff, into which the bird draws its head when it reposes or sleeps, so that the head is hardly to be seen: the remaining plumage all over the body &c. is of a dusky brown or blackish colour, except a few of the lesser covert-feathers of the wing, which are tipped with white: the under side of the bird is a shade lighter than the back and wings: its legs and feet are covered with blueish scales: the toes are connected at their bottoms by a skin: the nails or claws are black: the feathers on the thighs are long and loose, and sometimes cover the legs."

This Vulture was said by its keeper to have been brought from the deserts of Arabia. Edwards considered it as a non-descript species.

The Count de Buffon describes it as thicker and larger than the common Eagle, but rather smaller than the Fulvous Vulture, from which it is easy to distinguish it; its neck being covered with a longer and thicker down, of the same colour with the feathers of the back, and having a white collar, rising on both sides of the head, and extending in two branches to the bottom of the neck, covering on each side a pretty broad black space, under which is a narrow white ring: its feet are also covered with brown feathers, while in the Fulvous

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LE CHINCOU. *Levaillant*

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Vulture they are yellowish or whitish; and lastly, the toes are yellow, whereas in the Fulvous Vulture they are brown or ash-coloured*.

The general length of this species, according to Monsieur Sonnini, is three feet and a half: its beak four inches, its tail one foot, and its measure from wing's end to wing's end seven feet ten inches. It inhabits the highest mountains of Europe and Asia, and while it sleeps, withdraws its neck between its shoulders, so that the head appears as if cowled by the long plumes of the ruff. It is said to be occasionally seen in the mountainous parts of Germany, and among the Alps of Swisserland.

The Vulture described and figured by Vaillant under the name of *Le Chincou* appears to be no other than the present species, the description given by that author exactly corresponding with the bird represented by Edwards.

Although I have in this article conjoined the *Vautour* of Buffon with the V Monachus of Linnæus, I will by no means venture to affirm that they are absolutely the same species; but that the Chincou of Levaillant and the Crested Black-Vulture of Edwards are the same can hardly be called in question. It is singular that Monsieur Sonnini, after his just observation relative to the downy tuft on the head of Edwards's bird, should

* In this particular however the Count de Buffon's bird differs from the above described ones, in which the feet are brown or ash-coloured.

not have perceived the similarity in the *Chincou* of Levaillant.

The *Arrian* of Levaillant has so many resemblances to the *Vautour* of Buffon, or Cinereous Vulture of Latham, which we have in the present article united with the Monachus of Linnæus, that there can be little doubt of the identity of the species. It is said to be not uncommon in the Pyrenean mountains.

AURICULATED VULTURE.

Vultur auriculatus. *V. fuscus, collo nudo, cute auriculari producta, torque cervicali pallida.*
Brown Vulture, with naked neck, skin of the ears lengthened, and pale ruff.
L' Oricou. *Levaill. ois. Afr. p. 36, pl. 9.*

THE auriculated Vulture or Oricou of Levaillant takes its name from the remarkable projection of the skin round the ears, and which is also continued to some little distance down the neck on each side. It is a very large bird, measuring ten feet from wing's end to wing's end: its general colour brown, the throat being black, and covered with coarse hairs. These birds inhabit the Southern parts of Africa, and are of a gregarious nature, being often seen in large flocks, and sitting in vast numbers about the caverns of the rocky mountains on which they breed: their nests are frequently placed very near each other, and they appear to live in a kind

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AURICULATED VULTURE.

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of society: each nest contains generally two, and sometimes three eggs, of a white colour and of no unpleasing taste. The Oricou is a species of great voracity, and when attacked or wounded defends itself with prodigious strength and resolution, but is naturally of an indolent and sluggish character.

PONDICHERRY VULTURE.

Vultur Ponticerianus. *V. niger, capite colloque subdenudatis incarnatis, lateribus colli caruncula carnosa rubra. Lath. ind. orn. p. 7.*

Black Vulture, with nearly naked, flesh-coloured head and neck, and a fleshy red caruncle down each side the neck.

Vautour Royal de Pondicherry. *Sonnerat voy. ind. 2. p. 182. pl. 104.*

Size of a very large Goose. Head and neck naked and flesh-coloured: hind-head and space between the beak and eye beset with reddish down: on the sides of the neck a red caruncle: fore part of the neck and breast beset at intervals with tufts of small flesh-coloured plumes: iris red: bill black: legs yellow. Native of India, particularly about Pondicherry.

INDIAN VULTURE.

Vultur Indicus. *V. fuscus, corpore supra fasciis pallidis, capite colloque denudatis rufis, remigibus rectricibusque nigris. Lath. ind. orn. p. 7.*

Brown Vulture, with naked, rufous head and neck, and black wing and tail-feathers.

Indian Vulture. *Lath. Syn. suppl. p. 6.*

Le grand Vautour des Indes. *Sonner. voy. Ind. 2. p. 183. pl. 105.*

SIZE of the preceding species: head and neck rufous, and furnished with a scattered hairy down: bill black: irides red: neck long in proportion, and beset with tufts of very fine feathers: those of the breast short, appearing as if clipped or shaven; those of the lower part of the neck behind long, narrow, pointed, and of a bright rufous colour: wing-coverts, back, and rump brown, with pale bands, owing to the tip of each feather being much paler than the rest: quills, tail, and legs black. Native of India: extremely voracious, principally frequenting the sea banks, and preying on dead fish and other putrid substances; and, like other birds of this genus, sometimes assembling in vast numbers on a field of battle.

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FULVOUS or GOLDEN VULTURE

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FULVOUS VULTURE.

Vultur Fulvus. *V. fulvo-castaneus, remigibus candaque nigris, capite colloque lanuginosis albidis, torque albo.*

Fulvous-chesnut Vulture, with black wing and tail-feathers; downy whitish head and neck, and white ruff.

[redacted]ous Vulture. *Will. orn. p. 67. No. 7.*

[redacted]ure. *Albin. vol. 3. pl. 1.*

[redacted] Griffon. *Buff. ois. 1. p. 151. Mem. Acad. des Sciences, 1666 p. 209. pl. 30.?*

Vultur fulvus. *Briss. orn. 1. p. 462.*

Golden Vulture. *Will. orn. p. 67. No. 5.??*

The Fulvous or Golden Vulture is one of the largest of the genus, exceeding the size of the Golden Eagle. The specimen described by the accurate Brisson measured three feet six inches in length, and eight feet in breadth. The general colour of the plumage, when the bird is in high health, is a full rufous or tawny chesnut, in some individuals appearing more obscure or more approaching to a brown cast, especially on the upper parts of the body: the larger wing-feathers and the tail are of a dull black: the bill blueish, with the tip black: the eyes orange-coloured: the head and neck bare of feathers, but covered with pale or whitish woolly down, the skin itself being of a blueish cast: the lower part of the neck is encircled with a ruff of white plumes, and beneath the breast is usually observed a considerable cavity, lined with hairs, the tips of which are directed towards the middle: this is the place of the craw, which however may be supposed occasionally to pro-

trude when the bird is full-fed: the legs and feet are ash-coloured.

The figure of this bird in the Memoirs of the French Academy represents it with a very slight occipital tuft or elongation of the down on the back part of the head. That given at plate 4 of Willughby's Ornithology, under the name of *Vulture*, though by no means elegant, is yet sufficiently expressive of the general appearance of the bird. In the wretched publication of Albin there is also a figure of this species; but there seems to be a mistake in the colouring; the ruff being represented of the same colour with the plumage of the body*. It must be confessed that a high degree of confusion seems to take place, even among the latest and best ornithologists, relative to the species of Vultures; and very little dependance can, perhaps, be placed on the specific characters usually given; while the figures in various works, being occasionally misquoted and misapplied, have tended to increase the embarrassment. There can be little doubt that the present and the following species in particular are often confounded; neither indeed is the real difference sufficiently striking in any other respect than colour, to admit of a very correct specific character.

* Perhaps the bird may sometimes vary in this particular.

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CHESNUT VULTURE

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CHESNUT VULTURE.

Vultur castaneus. *V. fuscus, capite colloque lanuginosis albidis, torque subfusco, remigibus candaque nigris.*
Chesnut Vulture, with whitish downy head and neck, brownish ruff, and black wing and tail-feathers.
Le Percnoptere. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 149. *Pl. Enl.* 426.

THE present species, viz. the Percnoptere of Buffon, and which seems to be often mistaken by authors for the Vultur Percnopterus of Linnæus, appears to differ so little in its general aspect from the Fulvous Vulture, that one would be inclined to suppose it no other than a variety of the same bird, which, no doubt, like most others, occasionally varies in the cast of its plumage, inclining more or less either to fulvous, pale, or deep brown in different individuals.

The description of Buffon states that the head is pale blue, the neck white and naked, or covered like the head merely with a white down, and furnished with a collar of small, white, hard feathers below the neck, like a ruff; the iris reddish yellow; the bill and cere black; the hook of the bill whitish: the lower part of the feet and legs naked, and of a lead-colour; the claws black, shorter and straiter than those of an Eagle. It is remarkable for a brown spot shaped like a heart, and edged with a strait white line, situated on the breast under the ruff. In general this bird is of an ugly and ill-proportioned figure, and has even a disgusting appearance, from the continual flux of

rheum from its nostrils, and of saliva from two other holes in the bill: the craw is prominent, and when it is upon the ground it keeps its wings always extended. The Count de Buffon adds, that it is of the size of an Eagle, that it is an inhabitant of the Alps and Pyrenees, and of the mountains of Greece, and that it seems to be more rare than other Vultures. The Count de Buffon supposes it to be the Percnopteros of Aristotle. Whether this may be the case or not I shall not take upon myself to determine: it is necessary however to repeat that it is not the Vultur Percnopterus of Linnæus.

BENGAL VULTURE.

Vultur Bengalensis. *V. fuscus, subtus pallidior, remigibus nigris, capite colloque fusco-lanuginosis, torque fusco.*
Brown Vulture, paler beneath, with the head and neck covered by fuscous down; the lower part encircled by a brown ruff.
Bengal Vulture. *Lath. syn.* 1. *p.* 19.

This I place next to the two immediately preceding Vultures on account of its general similarity in point of shape or habit. Its length, according to Mr. Latham, is two feet six inches: its colour a uniform dusky brown, paler beneath: the head and neck covered with dark grey down, and encircled at the bottom by a ruff of lengthened plumes: eyes of a very deep brown: bill and legs dusky black. The crop hangs over the breast, as

in many others of the Vulture tribe, and I may here add, that this circumstance, which seems merely to depend on the birds being either full-fed or in a fasting state, has apparently misled some writers to represent it as forming a part of the descriptive character of the animal in several species. The present bird is a native of Bengal.

Var.?

BLACK VULTURE

Vultur Niger. *V. niger, remigibus rectricibusque fuscis, pedum pennis nigris. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel. Briss. av. p.* 131. *Will. orn. p.* 66.

This bird is described as larger than the Golden Vulture, and of a black colour, with brown wing-feathers and tail: the head covered with down, and the neck nearly bare: the orbits of the eyes, and the legs, which are feathered to the toes, white. It is said to be common in Egypt.

GINGI VULTURE.

Vultur Ginginianus. *V. albus, remigibus nigris, rostro pedibusque griseis. Lath. ind. orn.*

White Vulture, with black wing-feathers, and grey beak and legs.

Le Vautour Gingi. *Sonner. Voy. ind. 2. p.* 184.

DESCRIBED by Sonnerat, who informs us that it is of the size of a Turkey, and is found about the coasts of Coromandel, where it is called the wild turkey. If, says Sonnerat, we only regarded the character of the beak, we should not rank this bird among the Vultures, for it resembles exactly that of a Turkey: its base is covered with a naked skin, and the space between the nostrils and eyes is covered with hair-like down: the front, cheeks, and throat are naked, and, together with the base of the bill, are of a reddish flesh-colour: the feathers on the back of the head and neck are long and narrow, and the colour of the whole bird is white, except the quill-feathers of the wings, which are black: the irides are red; the bill and legs grey. Its size is that of a Turkey; its flight strong and rapid, and its voracity insatiable. It lives on carrion and reptiles; is generally seen single, and particularly in marshy places.

GESNERIAN VULTURE.

Vultur Percnopterus. *V. albus (feminâ subfuscâ) rostro elongato angusto, facie nuda, remigibus nigris margine canis.*
White Vulture (the female brownish,) with lengthened narrow beak, naked face, and black wing-feathers with grey edges.
Vultur Percnopterus. *V. remigibus nigris, margine exteriore, præter extimas, canis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Aquila quam Percnopterum, et Oripelargum, et Gypaætum vocant. Gesn. av. p. 193.
Rachamah. *Bruce trav. append. p.* 163.

It is to be lamented that the specific characters given by Linnæus in the Systema Naturæ are too often of very little use from their excessive brevity. Who can be supposed to be much instructed by such a descriptive character as *Vultur remigibus nigris, margine exteriore, præter extimas, canis.?* Linnæus however adds in a note, that the male bird is entirely white, and the female brown. The bird intended by Linnæus is the Percnopterus of Gesner, not very ill figured at page 193 of that author's ornithology*, though represented with the head very much retracted, or immersed in the neck-feathers. From the figure it appears to have been a male bird, being white, with the quill-feathers blackish or deep brown: its size, according to the description sent to Gesner, that of a Stork.

It appears therefore probable that the *Rachamah* of Mr. Bruce, the *Angola Vulture* of Mr. Pennant,

* Gesneri Opera, Tiguri. 1551. &c.

the *Ash-coloured Vulture* of Mr. Latham, and the *Petit Vautour* of Buffon, (*Petit Vautour de Norvege.* Pl. Enl. 429.) are in reality one and the same species, and constitute the male *Vultur Percnopterus* of Linnæus. I am also strongly inclined to believe that the *Maltese Vulture* of Mr. Latham, *Le Vautour de Malte* of Buffon (Pl. Enl. 427,) is no other than the female of this species*.

On this supposition the Vultur Percnopterus should seem to be a pretty general inhabitant of the old continent, being found not only in many of the temperate and warmer parts of Europe, but in various parts of Asia and Africa. It is said to be particularly plentiful in Egypt, where it is highly esteemed for its good services in destroying various putrid substances in the neighbourhood of towns and cities. Its general size, according to Monsieur Levaillant, is that of a female Turkey, but, like the American Vulture, it appears to vary greatly in size in different countries. The male bird also appears to vary in the cast of its colour, which is sometimes merely white, and sometimes a dirty pale-rufous white: the quills are black, but the secondaries are externally of the same colour with the rest of the plumage; thus confirming part of the Linnæan specific character. The female is said to exceed the male in size.

The description and figure given by Mr. Bruce of the Vulture called *Rachamah* appear evidently to relate to the present species.

* Mr. Latham, in his second Supplement, appears to be nearly of the same opinion.

"This bird (says he) is met with in some places in the south of Syria and in Barbary, but is nowhere so frequent as in Egypt, and about Cairo. It is called by the Europeans Poule de Faraone, the hen or the bird of Pharaoh. It is a vulture of the lesser kind, the hen being not much larger than our rook or crow, though by the length of its wings, and the erect manner in which it carries its head, it appears considerably larger. In Egypt and all over Barbary it is called Rachamah. The point of the beak of this bird is black, very sharp and strong for about three quarters of an inch, it is then covered by a yellow fleshy membrane, which clothes it as it were both above and below, as likewise the forepart of the head and throat, and ends in a sharp point before, nearly opposite to where the neck joins the breast; this membrane is wrinkled, and has a few hairs growing thinly scattered upon the lower part of it: it has large open nostrils, and prodigious large ears, which are not covered by any feathers whatever: the body is perfect white from the middle of the head, where it joins the yellow membrane, down to the tail: the large feathers of its wing are black; they are six in number: the lesser feathers are three, of an iron-grey, lighter towards the middle, and these are covered with three others lesser still, but of the same form, of an iron rusty colour: those feathers that cover the large wing-feathers are at the top for about an inch and quarter of an iron-grey, but the bottom is pure white: the tail is broad and thick above, and draws to a point at the bottom; it is not composed of large feathers, and is not half

an inch longer than the point of its wings: its thighs are clothed with a soft, down-like feather, as far as the joint: its legs are of a dirty white, inclining to flesh-colour, rough, with small tubercles which are soft and fleshy: it has three toes before and one behind; the middle of these is considerably the longest; they are armed with black claws, rather strong than pointed or much crooked: it has no voice that ever I heard, generally goes single, and oftener sits and walks upon the ground than upon trees: it delights in the most putrid and stinking kind of carrion, has itself a very strong smell, and putrifies very speedily. It is a very great breach of order, or police, to kill any one of these birds near Cairo."

AMERICAN VULTURE.

Vultur Aura. *V. Nigricans, purpureo viridique nitens, capite colloque denudatis rubris papilloso-rugosis.*

Blackish Vulture, with purple and green reflexions, and red, naked, papillated and wrinkled head and neck.

Vultur Aura. *V. fusco-griseus, remigibus nigris, rostro albo. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Carrion Vulture. *Sloane's Jamaica, 2. p. 294. pl. 254.*

Turkey-Buzzard. *Catesb. Carol. 1. pl. 6.*

THIS species, with some variations*, appears to be pretty generally diffused over the whole conti-

* It is contended by some that there are in reality two distinct species, viz. the *V. Aura*, which is of a blackish brown, and the *V. Uruba*, which is entirely black, the bill, head, and neck excepted. This black species, or *Uruba*, is most prevalent in South America.

nent of South America, but is most numerous in the warmer regions. In some parts of British America it is popularly called by the name of the Turkey-Buzzard, and in other parts by that of the Carrion Crow. Its general size is somewhat smaller than a Turkey, and its colour brownish black, with varying reflexions of green and purple; the larger wing-feathers and tail being of a deeper black than the rest of the plumage. The whole head and neck, with the base of the bill, are bare of feathers, of a dull red colour, transversly wrinkled and granulated, and sparingly scattered over with a blackish down: the bill is rather narrow, lengthened, and of a whitish colour, with a dark tip: the legs and feet flesh-coloured, with black claws. It feeds on every kind of animal matter, and is highly esteemed in the West Indies on account of its activity in clearing away such substances as might otherwise tend to infect the air in those warm climates. In consequence of this mode of life, the birds themselves have always a very offensive odour. They are observed to vary considerably in size in different parts of America, and the smallest are those of the West Indies, the measure of those of Jamaica being, according to Sir Hans Sloane, two feet from the tip of the bill to that of the tail, and twice as much from wing's end to wing's end. Their general manners are very well described by Catesby.

"Their food is carrion, in search of which they are always soaring in the air: they continue a long time on the wing, and with an easy, swimming

motion, mount and fall, without any visible moving of their wings. A dead carcass will attract together great numbers of them, and 'tis pleasant to observe their contentions in feeding. An Eagle sometimes presides at the banquet, and makes them keep their distance while he satiates himself. This bird (the Carrion Vulture) has a wonderful sagacity in smelling. No sooner there is a beast dead, but they are seen approaching from all quarters of the air, wheeling about, and gradually descending and drawing nigh their prey, till at length they fall upon it. They are generally thought not to prey on any thing living, though I have known them kill lambs; and snakes are their usual food. Their custom is to roost, many of them together, on tall dead pine or cypress-trees, and in the morning continue several hours on their roost, with their wings spread open; I believe, that the air may have the greater influence to purify their filthy carcasses. They are little apprehensive of danger, and will suffer a near approach, especially when they are eating."

"At the first landing of the English in Jamaica, (says Sir Hans Sloane) by the bareness and colour of the skin on the head, they took this bird for a Turkey, and killed several of them in several places for such; but soon found themselves deceived with their stinking and lean bodies, which they almost always have."

Mr. Pennant, in his Arctic Zoology, observes that these birds are common from Nova Scotia to Terra del Fuego, but swarm in the hotter parts of

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America. He adds that, "mischievous as they are in a few instances*, yet, by the wise and beneficent dispensations of Providence, they make in the hot climates full recompence, by lessening the number of those destructive animals the Alligators, which would otherwise become intolerable by their multitudes. During the season in which these reptiles lay their eggs in the sand, the Vultures will sit hid in the leaves of the trees, watching the coming of the female Alligator to deposit its eggs, who then covers them with sand to secure them, as she imagines, from all danger; but no sooner does she retire into the water, than the birds dart on the spot, and with claws, wings, and beak, tear away the sand, and devour the contents of the whole depository."

KING VULTURE.

Vultur Papa. *V. albido rufescens, capite colloque denudatis varicgatis, naribus caruncula laxa crocea, collo torque cano.*

Whitish-rufescent Vulture, with naked variegated head and neck; nostrils furnished with a loose orange-coloured caruncle, and neck with a grey ruff.

Vultur Papa. *V. Naribus carunculatis, vertice colloque denudato. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

The King of the Vultures. *Edw. pl.* 2.

THIS bird, which exceeds every other species of Vulture in the elegance of its appearance, is

* They are sometimes known to attack cattle in a weak or diseased state and destroy them.

about the size of a hen Turkey, and of a light reddish brown or buff colour, with black wings and tail, accompanied with a gloss of green, the edges of the wing-feathers being of a whitish cast: the under parts of the body are white, with a slight cast of yellow; the legs and feet pale flesh-colour; but what constitutes the peculiar ornament of the bird is the vivid colouring of the head and neck, which are bare of feathers, and are thus correctly described in the words of Edwards.

"The bill is pretty thick and strong, strait for a little way, then bends into a hook, and overhangs the lower mandible: it is red at the point, and black in the middle-part: the base of the bill, both upper and lower mandibles, are covered with a skin of an orange-colour, broad, and pointing to the crown of the head on each side above, in which spaces are placed the nostrils, of an oblong shape: between the nostrils is a loose flap of scolloped skin, which falls indifferently on either side of the bill when the bird moves its head: the iris of the eye is of a bright pearly whiteness: round the eye is an indifferent broad space of scarlet skin: the head and neck are covered with bare skin; the crown is of a dirty flesh-colour towards the bill, and scarlet in the hinder part, behind which is a little tuft of black hairs: from this tuft proceeds on each side and parts the head from the neck, a sort of stay of wrinkled skin, of a brownish colour, with a little blue and red in its hinder part: the sides of the head are of a black or dirty colour, with spots of brownish purple behind the angles of

the mouth: the sides of the neck are red, which gradually becomes yellow in its fore part: there runs a dirty yellow list down the hind part of the neck; and at the bottom of the neck a ruff of loose, soft, ash-coloured feathers quite round, in which, by contraction, it can hide its whole neck, and sides of the head."

This beautiful species is a native of many parts of South-America, and is said to be also found in the West-Indies. In its manners it resembles the rest of this tribe, feeding on carrion, and occasionally preying on several of the smaller animals, as lizards, &c. &c. The most correct and expressive figure is that of Edwards, which is therefore selected for the present work.

PLAINTIVE VULTURE.

Vultur Plancus. *V. albidus, lineis transversis nigricantibus, alis fuscis, vertice subcristato nigro.*
Whitish Vulture, with transverse blackish lines, brown wings, and slightly crested black crown.
Vultur Plancus. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Falco Plancus. *Lin. Gmel. Mill. Illustr. Nat. Hist. pl.* 17.
Plaintive Eagle. *Lath. Synops.* 1. *p.* 34.
Plaintive Vulture. *Lath. Synops. suppl. p.* 4.

From a kind of ambiguity of character which the head of this species exhibits, Mr. Latham in his excellent ornithological Synopsis, was induced to place it in the genus Falco, and others have since continued the same arrangement. In re-

ality however, as Mr. Latham has observed in his Supplement, its characters are rather those of a Vulture than an Eagle.

Its length is about two feet four inches, and its colour white or pale cinereous, crossed with very numerous blackish lines or narrow bars; but the wings are brown, except some of the larger quill-feathers, which are black, and some of the secondaries, which are coloured like the back, and have black tips: the tail is also of the same appearance, and is tipped by a broad black bar, and on the lower part of the belly is a broad black zone: the bill is brown, the cere or naked part, which extends beyond the eyes, is orange-coloured, and slightly besprinkled with a kind of setaceous down, which is continued to a little distance under the throat: the top of the head is black, with the feathers somewhat lengthened, so as to form a slight crest: the legs and feet are yellow. This bird is finely figured in Mr. Miller's miscellaneous plates of Natural History. It is a native of Terra del Fuego, and is introduced, as an accompaniment to the scenery of *Christmas Sound* in the thirty-second plate of Captain Cook's Voyage, vol. 2. p. 184.

CHERIWAY VULTURE.

Vultur Cheriway. *V. cera rosea, pedibus flavis, corpore ferrugineo, capite albido, vertice cristato ferrugineo. Lath. ind. orn.*

Vulture with rose-coloured cere, yellow legs, ferruginous body, and whitish head with ferruginous crest.

Falco Cheriway. *Jacq. Voeg. p.* 17. *t.* 4.

This is a kind of doubtful species, which may either be considered as a Vulture or an Eagle. It seems to have been first described by Jacquin, who observed it in the island of Aruba, near the coast of Venetzuela in South America. Its length is rather more than two feet and a half: the bill pale blue; the head and neck very pale yellow; the hind-head crested; the cere and parts round the eyes rose-colour: the general colour of the plumage on the upper parts ferruginous, beneath pale: the vent white: the two middle tail-feathers marked with dusky bars; the lateral ones and quills dusky black: the legs pale yellow. This bird is said never to erect the crest on the head, which is always carried in a recumbent state.

DOUBTFUL SPECIES.

Tawny Vulture. *Latham Syn.*
Brown's Illustrations of Zoology. pl. 1.

A middle-sized species, entirely of a very pale rufous-brown colour, with the tail whitish, and marked by several narrow brown bars. From a specimen in the Museum of the Royal Society. Said to be a native of Falkland Isles. Bill very short, cere large: chin slightly bearded.

Hare Vulture. *Lath Syn. Will. orn. p. 67. No. 4.*
Vultur leporarius. *Gesn.*

Said to be about the size of the Golden Eagle, and entirely of a shining reddish black colour; the breast inclining to fulvous: bill black; legs yellow: head furnished with a crest, appearing as if horned. Said to inhabit the recesses of thick woods, to build in lofty trees, and to prey on leverets and other animals. It is probably a species of Eagle rather than Vulture.

Armed Vulture.

Mentioned by Brown in his African Travels, and said to be extremely frequent in the country of Darfur, flying about by thousands, and devouring all manner of carrion, &c. Its colour is not particularly described, but it is said to have a

white head, and to be furnished with a strong and sharp spur at the joint or shoulder of each wing, which renders it a very formidable adversary.

Bold Vulture. *Lath. suppl.* 2*d.*

Size uncertain: colour wholly brown, with pale yellow bill: front of the head bare: quills and tail nearly black. Said to be a very bold bird, and to kill the *Pottegorang*, and even to attack the natives in New Holland, where it is called by the name of *Boora-Morang*.

SERPENTARIUS. SNAKE-EATER.

Generic Character.

Rostrum vulturinum.	*Beak* vulturine.
Lingua acuminata.	*Tongue* pointed.
Pedes longissimi.	*Legs* very long.

AFRICAN SNAKE-EATER.

Serpentarius Africanus. *S. cinereus, occipite cristato, cauda cuneata, rectricibus mediis elongatis.*
Ash-coloured Snake-Eater, with the hind-head crested, the tail cuneated, and the middle tail-feathers lengthened.
Sagittarius. *Vosmaer monogr. tab.* 8.
Secretary or Sagittarius. *Phil. Trans.* 61. *p.* 175.
The Snake-Eater. *Memoirs of G. Edwards. p.* 34.
Secretaire. *Sonnerat voy. p.* 87. *t.* 50.
Vultur Serpentarius. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Secretary Vulture. *Lath. syn.*
Falco Serpentarius. *Lin. Gmel. Miller Ill. Nat. Hist. pl.* 28.
Vultur Serpentarius. *Cimelia Physica. t.* 28.

THE bird which constitutes the present genus is so much allied in its principal characters to the Vulture tribe, that it has been associated with those birds by one of the first ornithologists of the present age. It has indeed been more generally

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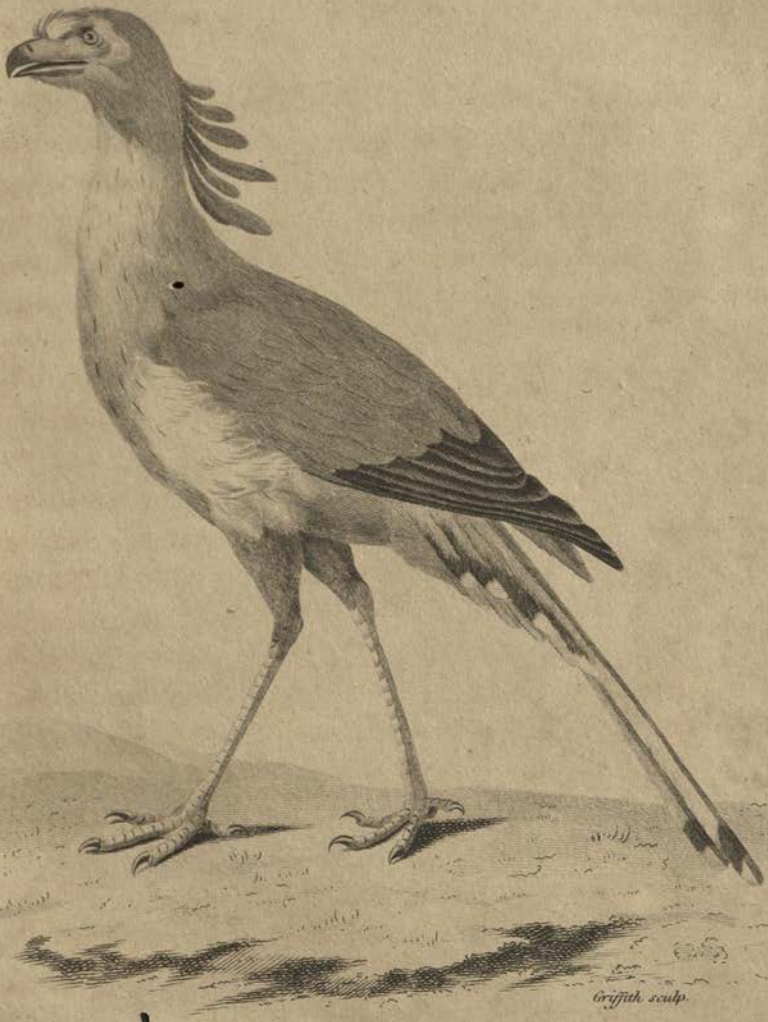

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considered as belonging to the genus Falco, and has accordingly been so placed in the Gmelinian edition of the Systema Naturæ of Linnæus. The peculiarity of its appearance however is sufficient to justify its being considered as forming a separate genus, allied both to that of Vultur and Falco, but most nearly to the former.

"This bird, says the judicious Edwards, is of a new genus, and the only species of it hitherto come to my knowledge. It is about the bigness of the Heron and Crane kind, except that the neck is a little longer. On first view, I judged it to be no wader in the water, for though the legs are as long, or longer than in Herons, &c. yet they are feathered down to the knees, which we do not find in birds who wade in shallow waters to seek their food: the toes of this bird are also much shorter than they are in Herons; so that I think it must be placed amongst land birds. The bill is exactly like those of Hawks and other birds of prey; which is the only instance I have discovered in any of the long legged kind of birds: the talons or claws are small, and unfit for a bird of prey, and the eyes are of a dark colour, placed in the spaces covered with a bare skin of an orange-colour, on each side the head."

The Count de Buffon places it in company with the Herons, the Jabiru, the Palamedea, and the rest of the larger kind of waders, and the ingenious Monsieur Sonnini follows the same arrangement.

The most accurate description of the Snake-

Eater is that of Monsieur Levaillant, who, during his African travels, had the opportunity of contemplating it in its native regions. Its size, he informs us, is somewhat inferior to that of a Stork, the beak strong, and curved like that of an Eagle; the base of the beak, and the eyes, are surrounded by a bare orange-coloured skin: the mouth is wide, the gape or opening passing beyond the eyes; which are grey, and ornamented by black brows: on the back of the head is a pendent crest, formed of ten feathers, the lowest of which are the longest: the legs are very long, and the tail is composed of feathers which lengthen on each side, the two middle ones being twice the length of the rest. The colour of the bird in its perfect plumage is a blueish grey on the head, neck, breast and back: the coverts of the wings are of the same colour, but clouded with rufous brown, and the quill-feathers are black: the throat and breast are white; the inferior tail-coverts very pale rufous; the lower belly black, mixed or streaked with rufous; the thighs black, very finely streaked with brown: the tail-feathers are partly black, but become more grey as they lengthen, and are tipped with white: the two middle-feathers are of a blueish grey, clouded with brown towards the end, which is white with a black spot. The female differs from the male by its grey colour, less clouded with brown; by its shorter crest; by the feathers on the belly and thighs being more varied; and lastly, by the two middle tail-feathers, which are shorter than in the male. The skin of the throat

and neck of this bird are capable of great extension, and the shoulders are each armed with three strong, rounded, bony protuberances, which enable it to wage successful war against snakes, which it constantly persecutes. It also feeds on young tortoises, lizards, &c. and occasionally on locusts and other insects. In the craw of one examined by Monsieur Levaillant were found twenty-one young tortoises, several of which were nearly two inches in diameter; three snakes of the length of a man's arm, and an inch thick; and eleven lizards of seven or eight inches in length; and in the stomach, which was very large, was a ball of the size of a goose-egg, formed entirely of the vertebræ of snakes and lizards, the scales of tortoises, the wing-shells of various beetles, and the wings and legs of locusts.

The Snake-eater is an inhabitant of dry open plains in the lower parts of Africa. It is found about the Cape of Good Hope, and in the country of the Caffres and Namaquas. Being almost always obliged to run in pursuit of its prey, it makes but little use of its power of flight. It frequently kills, or at least totally disables a snake with a single stroke of its wing, by breaking the vertebræ. In its natural state it is extremely wild, and very difficultly approached. The male and female rarely quit each other. Those which frequent the neighbourhood of the Cape construct a very large nest or eyry on the top of some high thicket, and line it with wool and feathers; but towards the region of terra de Natal they

build on lofty trees. The eggs are two or three in number, white, with reddish specks, and about the size of goose-eggs.

When the Snake-eater is taken young, it may be easily tamed, and may be kept with poultry in the farm-yard, where it is serviceable in destroying rats and various other noxious animals. It may be fed with meat, either raw or dressed, and will readily eat fish. If kept too long fasting, it is apt to seize on small chickens and ducklings, which it swallows whole, in their feathers. It is not however of a malignant disposition, and is generally observed to interpose its authority in appeasing the quarrels that happen among the other birds.

FALCO. FALCON.

Generic Character.

Rostrum aduncum, basi cera instructum.	*Beak* hooked, furnished at the base with a cere.
Caput pennis arcte tectum.	*Head* well covered with feathers.
Lingua plerisque bifida.	*Tongue*, in most species, bifid.

THE birds of this genus differ from the Vultures in having a less elongated beak, very strong, curved, and generally furnished on each side, towards the tip, with a kind of tooth or process. They prey, in general, on living animals, unless compelled by hunger. The species are extremely numerous, and are observed to vary considerably in their plumage according to age and other circumstances. The males are smaller than the females. The genus may be considered as constituting five tribes or families, viz. Eagles, Falcons, Kites, Buzzards, and Hawks.

IMPERIAL EAGLE.

Falco imperialis. *F. nigricans, rufo-cinereo varius, cristæ occipitalis pennis mediis dimidiato-nigris.*
Blackish Eagle, with rufo-cinereous variegations, and the two middle feathers of the occipital crest half black.
Le Grand Aigle de la Guiane. *Sonnini Buff.*
L'Aigle Destructeur. *Sonnini Buff.?*
Falco Destructor. *Daudin ornith. 2. p. 60.?*

THIS noble bird is a native of South-America, and was first described by Monsieur Sonnini, who discovered it in Guiana. In size it considerably surpasses the Golden Eagle, measuring three feet and a half from the tip of the bill to the end of the tail. Its colour above is rufous grey, barred with black, the black prevailing most on the wings: the tail is grey, barred and spotted with black, and tipped with rufous: all the under parts of the bird, except the vent, are pale cinereous, very soft and downy: the vent is white barred with black: the beak and cere black; the legs and feet yellow: the head is strongly crested with long grey feathers, tipped with dull white, the two middle feathers exceeding the rest in length, and measuring above five inches: these two feathers are of a rufous-grey colour for half their length, the remainder being black, with rufous-grey tips: the skin of the front, between the beak and eyes is bare, and beset with scattered black hairs.

This Eagle is a rare bird in Guiana, and is found only in the interior parts of the country, where it

IMPERIAL EAGLE

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inhabits the deep recesses of the forests, preying on various kinds of game. When disturbed, it immediately elevates the crest on its head.

I cannot but imagine the bird described by Monsieur Sonnini and Monsieur Daudin under the name of *Aigle Destructeur*, (Falco Destructor) to be no other than the male of the same species. Like the preceding, it was first discovered by Monsieur Sonnini in Guiana. Its length is three feet two inches, French measure; and its colour black above, with greyish clouds or bands; the under parts dull white, with a mixture of grey: the head cinereous, and furnished at the back part with a beautiful semipendent crest, consisting of several feathers of considerable length, and of a grey colour; the middle feather longer than the rest, and of a black colour, tipped with grey: the thighs white, with transverse black undulations; the bill horn-colour; the legs and feet yellow. It is said to be a very bold and ferocious bird, and to prey on fawns, and other young quadrupeds; particularly on the two species of Sloth, viz. the Bradypus tridactylus and didactylus, which inhabit the trees of Guiana. Monsieur Sonnini however declares that he is unacquainted with its manners, and does not conceive that these particulars are properly authenticated. He is clear that it does not prey on fish, which, from the appearance of the legs, was surmised by Monsieur Cuvier.

HARPY EAGLE.

Falco Harpya. *F. nigro griseoque varius, subtus albus, crista occipitali bifida, rostro nigro, pedibus flavis.*
Eagle variegated with black and grey; beneath white; with bifid occipital crest, black beak, and yellow legs.
Vultur Harpya. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Falco Harpya. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Aquila brasiliensis cristata. *Brisson.*

THIS bird, which appears to be as yet but imperfectly known to naturalists, is a native of South America, and particularly of Brasil. It seems in some degree doubtful whether it should be considered as an Eagle or a Vulture, and has accordingly been differently arranged by authors, as may be perceived from a consultation of the synonyms following the specific character. Its size is said to be that of a Sheep, and its colour black above, with paler variegations, and white beneath: the tail black, with brown bars; the bill black, and the legs yellow: the head is covered with feathers, and is of a blueish brown colour, the hind part being furnished with a lengthened, bifid crest, which it frequently elevates. It is of a highly ferocious nature, preying on various animals, and is said to be able to cleave a man's skull with a single stroke of his beak.

VAR. ?

The bird described by Jacquin under the name of Vultur coronatus, is by Mr. Latham considered

as a variety of the above. It is found in the mountainous parts of New Grenada, and said to be of the same size with the former; the bill black; the head of a reddish grey, and adorned with a crest composed of several feathers of the length of six inches at least: part of the wings, the neck, and breast are black; the belly white; the thighs white, spotted with black; the tail long, and varied with black and white: the legs very strong, and yellow. When it stands upright, it is two feet and a half in height.

CALQUIN EAGLE.

Falco Calquin. *F. nigro-cærulescens, capite cristato, pectore albo nigro maculato, cauda nigro fuscoque fasciata.*

Blueish-black Eagle, with crested head, white breast spotted with black, and tail barred with black and brown.

Calquin. *Molina Hist. Chil.*

EXTENT, from wing's end to wing's end, ten feet and a half: colour above blue-black; on the head a blue crest: tail barred with black and brown: breast white, spotted with brown. Native of Chili, where it is known by the name of *Calquin.*

ROYAL EAGLE.

Falco regalis. *F. fuscus, albo nigroque maculatus, subtus albus, occipite subcristato, cauda griseo-fasciata.*

Brown Eagle, with black and white spots; beneath white; the head slightly crested, and the tail barred with grey.

L'Ouira Ouassou. *Sonnini Buff.*

Monsieur Sonnini, in his edition of the Count de Buffon's Natural History, describes and figures this bird from a Portuguese manuscript communicated to Monsieur Condamine by an ecclesiastical correspondent at Para in Brazil.

It is a bird of great beauty, having an elegantly varied plumage, and commanding attitudes. Its size is double that of an Eagle; its head large, and furnished with a crest in form of a casque: the bill long; the eyes bright and piercing; the nostrils large, and beset with hair on each side the bill: the neck thick; the legs naked, scaly, and reddish: the claws black, crooked, and of the length of the middle finger: the back, wings, and tail are brown, spotted with black, and variegated with whitish or yellowish streaks; the belly white, the feathers being very soft, and equal in elegance to those of an Egret. It flies with majestic rapidity, and such is the expanse of its wings, that it sometimes strikes and kills its prey with them before it touches it with its claws. Its strength is such as to enable it to tear in pieces in an instant the largest sheep, and it pursues indiscriminately all kind of wild animals. It even dares to attack

mankind; but its principal food consists of Monkies, and particularly those called *Guaribas*, which it kills with its beak, and devours in an instant with extraordinary voracity. Its general residence is on lofty mountains, and it builds its nest on the highest trees, employing for their construction the bones of the animals it has slaughtered, and some dry branches of trees, which it binds together with the stems of climbers. It is said to lay two or three eggs, which are white, spotted with reddish-brown. It is chiefly found about the borders of the river Amazon. Many virtues are attributed to its burnt feathers. Pens are made of its quills, and whistles of its claws.

Such is the account given by Don Laurent Alvarez Roxo de Postflitz, Grand Chanter of the cathedral of Para, and correspondent of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris.

GRIFFARD EAGLE.

Falco Armiger. *F. grisco-fuscus, subtus albus, occipite cristato, remigibus secondariis caudaque albido-fasciatis.*

Grey-brown Eagle, white beneath, with the hind-head crested, and the smaller wing-feathers and tail crossed with whitish bars.

Le Griffard. *Vaill. Ois. Afr. No.* 1. *Sonnini Buff.*

Nearly the size of the Golden Eagle: colour grey-brown above; white beneath: head paler than the rest of the upper parts, the tips of the feathers alone being coloured, and those of the

hind-head lengthened into a slight, pendent crest: bill blueish, with black tip; irides bright hazel: craw prominent, and covered with fine, silky, white down: larger quill-feathers black: the smaller and the tail transversely barred with blackish and grey bands: claws black, very strong and crooked. Male similar to the female, but somewhat darker coloured. This is a very fierce and ravenous species, preying on the young of Antelopes, on hares, and other of the smaller quadrupeds, and driving away all other birds of prey from its haunts. It builds its eyry either on very tall trees, or on the points of rocks: the nest is very large and flat, and strong enough to bear the weight of a man: the eggs are two in number, round, and perfectly white. Native of the country of Namaquas.

VULTURINE EAGLE.

Falco vulturinus. *F. niger, rostro basi subcæruleo, apice flavo, pedibus flavis, cauda rotundata.*

Black Eagle, with the beak blueish at the base, and yellow at the tip, the legs yellow, and the tail rounded.

Aigle Caffre. *Levaillant. Ois. Afr. pl. 6. Sonnini Buff.*

The size of this species, according to Monsieur Levaillant, is equal to that of the Golden Eagle, and its general colour a deep black, some of the feathers of the back having brownish edges: the bill is very strong and of a pale blue at the base, the tip being yellow: the claws of moderate size,

and not greatly curved: the legs of a dirty yellow, and feathered for three quarters of their length: the tail rounded, and considerably shorter than the wings. Native of Caffraria, where however it is somewhat rare, feeding principally on carrion or carcasses, but will attack sheep, and devour them on the spot.

OCCIPITAL EAGLE.

Falco Occipitalis. *F. niger, occipite cristato, cauda albo varia, pedibus flavis.*
Black Eagle, with crested hind-head, tail variegated with white, and yellow feet.
Le Huppard. *Levail. Ois. Afr. pl.* 2.
Nisser Tokoor. *Bruce trav. append. p.* 158.
Falco occipitalis. *Daudin. ois.* 2. *p.* 40.

This species is described by Mr. Bruce in the appendix to his travels. Mr. Bruce calls it by the name of *Nisser Tokoor* or Black Eagle. "He was altogether, says Mr. Bruce, of a dark brown, or chesnut, leading to black. The whole length, from the extremity of the tail to the nose, was two feet four inches: the breadth, from wing to wing, four feet six inches. He was very lean, and weighed something less than five pounds: the fourth feather of his wing, after the largest, was white: the feathers of the lower side of his tail were of a blueish brown, checkered with white, and those of the upper side of the tail were black and white alternately: his thighs were thick covered with feathers, so were

his legs down to the joining of the foot: his feet were yellow, with strong black claws: the inside of his wings was white with a mixture of brown: his leg, from the joining of the foot, was three inches: his beak, from the point to where the feathers reached, was two inches and a quarter: the length of his crest from the head to the longest feather five inches: the eye was black with a cast of fire-colour in it, the iris yellow, and the whole eye exceedingly beautiful." This bird happened accidentally to straggle into a host of Vultures, which had followed the carnage of a battle, and was struck to the ground by one of those voracious animals, in consequence of which Mr. Bruce had an opportunity of describing it. Mr. Bruce adds, that during the march of an Abyssinian army, there is no giving an idea of the number of Vultures and other ravenous birds hovering in the air and attending it, unless by comparing them to the sand of the sea. "While the army is in motion they are a black canopy, extending over it for leagues."

There can be little doubt that the *Huppard* of Monsieur Levaillant is the same species. It is of the size of a large Buzzard: its general colour is a deep brown, darker beneath the body, but paler on the neck and breast: the quill and tail-feathers are black, with slight grey and white bars, and the feathers of the thighs are mixed with white: the head is ornamented at the back part with a beautiful floating crest, composed of plumes five or six inches in length: the bill is dusky, and the

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CROWNED EAGLE

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legs covered with brown and white down. It is an inhabitant of Caffraria, preying on partridges, ducks, leverets, &c. It is a bird of very rapid flight, darting like an arrow on its prey. It builds on lofty trees, lining its nest with wool or feathers, and laying roundish eggs, spotted with rufous brown.

CROWNED EAGLE.

Falco coronatus. *F. fuscus, subtus albo nigroque varius, pectore fulvo, crista occipitali bifida.*
Brown Eagle, variegated beneath with black and white; with fulvous breast, and bifid occipital crest.
The Crowned Eagle. *Edwards pl.* 224.
Falco coronatus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*

The first correct describer of this elegant species appears to be Edwards, who observes that it is about a third part less than the larger kind of Eagles, but of equal boldness and strength in proportion.

"The bill," says Edwards, "and the skin that covers the upper mandible, in which the nostrils are placed, are of a dusky brown colour: the corners of the mouth are cleft in pretty deep under the eyes, and are of a yellowish colour: the circles round the eyes are of a reddish orange-colour: the fore part of the head, the space round the eyes, and the throat, are covered with white feathers, with small black spots: the hinder part of the head and neck, the back and wings, are of a dark-brown or

blackish colour, the outer edges of the feathers being of a light brown: the quills are darker than the other feathers of the wings: the ridge in the upper part, and the tips of some of the lesser covert-feathers of the wings are white: the tail is of a brown colour, barred across with black, and on its under side appears of a dark and light ash-colour: the breast is of a reddish brown, with large transverse black spots on its sides: the belly and covert-feathers under the tail, are white, spotted with black: the thighs and legs, down to the feet, are covered with white feathers, beautifully spotted with round black spots: the feet and claws are very strong: the feet are covered with scales of a bright orange-colour: the claws are black: it raises the feathers on the hinder part of the head in the form of a crest or crown, from which it takes its name."

The Crowned Eagle is a native of Africa, and is said to be principally seen in Guinea.

ZONE-TAILED EAGLE.

Falco zonurus. *F. niger, caudæ zona media apiceque albis, occipite subcristato, pedibus flavis.*

Black Eagle, with the middle zone and tip of the tail white, the hind-head slightly crested, and yellow legs.

L'Aigle noir huppé d'Amerique. *Sonnini Buff.*

Size of the Osprey (F. Haliætus.) colour black, the tail white from the base, then crossed by a

broad bar of black, and tipped with white: the bill horn-colour; the space between the bill and eyes on each side naked and beset with bristles: the hind-head furnished with a short crest, in the middle of which is a white spot: the thighs barred with white streaks; the legs long, naked, and yellow; the claws black, and rather weak. Native of South-America, and described by Monsieur Sonnini from a specimen in the Paris Museum.

URUBITINGA EAGLE.

Falco Urubitinga. *F. fuscus, cinereo & nigricante varius, cauda alba, apice nigra albo terminata.*
Brown Eagle, with blackish and ash-coloured variegations, and white tail, with a terminal black band tipped with white.
Urubitinga Brasiliensibus. *Marcgr. Bras. p.* 214.
Falco Urubitinga. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

The description of this species is copied by authors from Marcgrave, who mentions it in his History of Brasil. It is of the size of a half-grown goose: the bill large and black, with a yellow cere: the plumage brown with a blackish mixture; the wings varied with ash-colour, and the tail white, with a black terminal band tipped with white: legs bare and yellow.

From the description of the tail, this bird has been supposed the same with the preceding, but both Monsieur Daudin and Sonnini consider it as very distinct.

CARACCA EAGLE.

Falco Caracca. *F. capite cristato, dorso alis gulaque nigris, abdomine albo, rectricibus fasciis quatuor cinereis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Eagle with crested head, back, wings, and throat black, abdomen white, and tail marked by four ash coloured bands.

Crested Falcon. *Dillon's travels through Spain. p.* 80. *pl.* 3.

Caracca Falcon. *Lath. synops.*

Size of a Turkey: the back, wings, and throat are black; the belly white, and the tail marked by four parallel ash-coloured stripes or bands: the bill is strongly hooked, and the feathers of the head are elevated at pleasure in the form of a crest.

Described in Dillon's travels through Spain. It was kept in the Royal Menagerie at the Palace of *Buon Retiro* at *Madrid.*

SUPERB EAGLE.

Falco superbus. *F. fuscus, subfulvo varius, occipite cristato, nucha fulva, abdomine albo nigro maculato.*

Brown Eagle, with subfulvous variegations, crested hind-head, fulvous nape, and white abdomen spotted with black.

L'Aigle moyen de la Guiane. *Sonnini Buff. Mauduyt encycl. meth.?*

Falco ornatus.? *Daudin ois.*

Autour huppé.? *Levaill. ois. Afr. No.* 26.

This bird, says Monsieur Sonnini, I have seen in its native country, but am unacquainted with its

manners, except that, like other birds of the genus, it inhabits the vast forests of Guiana, where it is not uncommon. It is distinguished by a peculiarity of conformation which has escaped the notice of Monsieur Mauduyt, one of its describers, viz. a kind of pendent naked craw, like some of the Vultures. Its length, from the tip of the bill to that of the tail, is twenty-five inches, and the tail exceeds the length of the wings, when closed, by about a third part. The upper part of the head, and the crest, which is composed of five or six feathers, are brown: the back and wings brown, with a few transverse tawny bars, and the tail is alternately barred above with black and pale brown: the sides of the neck are tawny; the throat and breast white, the abdomen white, marked with round and oblong black spots, disposed in such a manner as to form transverse stripes, interrupted by the white ground-colour: the feathers of the thighs and legs are white, striped with black.

A species allied to the above is described and figured in Levaillant's African Birds, under the name of *Autour huppé,* and Monsieur Daudin has called it *Falco ornatus;* but Monsieur Sonnini is doubtful as to the identity of species in these birds; since the *Autour huppé* of Levaillant has the crest black and white; the feathers of the head black, the back of the neck of a deep rufous colour, and the fore part of a reddish white, a black line, which passes from the corners of the mouth, separating the rufous colour of the nape from the white of the throat; while all the fore part of the body is

white, more or less tinged with rufous, and spotted with black; the wings and back deep brown, with blackish clouds; and the tail brown with large black bands; the bill blueish with a reddish base, and the feet yellowish with black claws.

It should be added, that Monsieur Levaillant considers this species as a kind of Goshawk rather than Eagle; and Monsieur Daudin in his Ornithology observes, that from the appearance of its bill and strong claws, it probably commits great ravages among the feathered race. Levaillant observes that it is a third larger than the European Goshawk.

MAUDUYT'S EAGLE.

Falco Mauduyti. *F. cristatus supra fusco-nigricans, subtus albus, alis cincreo-fasciatis.*
Crested brownish black Eagle, white beneath, with the wings barred with cinereous.
Falco Mauduyti. *Daud. orn. 2. p. 73.*
Grand Autour de Cayenne. *Manduyt Enc. Meth.*

Length two feet: bill and cere black: eyelids and skin between the bill and eye covered with hairs: nape ash-colour; the feathers with black shafts, and streaked with white: cheeks white: from behind the eye to the hind-head a black streak: hind-head furnished with a long crest: upper part of the body black-brown; middle of the wing barred with cinereous grey: belly white, barred

with rufous brown; shins covered with feathers, rufous and white, in rings: tail long, banded alternately with four bands of black and grey: wings, when closed, reaching half way down the tail: toes yellow. The female is larger, and is destitute of the crest. This species belongs rather to the Buzzard or Falcon tribe than to the Eagles.

SONNINI'S EAGLE.

Falco Sonnini. *F. fusco, pennis intus albis, remigibus rectricibusque albo-fasciatis.*

Brown Eagle, with the feathers white within; those of the wings and tail barred with white.

Petit Aigle de la Guiane. *Sonnini Buff.*

This small Eagle, according to Sonnini, has not yet been described by any other naturalist. Its length is but twenty-two inches, and the legs are feathered down to the toes: the hind-head is crested by feathers about an inch longer than the rest: the wings, when closed, extend rather more than half the length of the tail. The whole bird, when at rest, appears of an uniform brown colour; but when it spreads its wings and prepares for motion, it appears every where varied with white, the quills and tail being barred with that colour, but the white is brighter beneath than above: the feet are yellow.

We must observe that this species is a very different bird from the following one, which is described under the same title by Mr. Mauduyt

in the Encyclopedie Methodique; and Monsieur Sonnini is even inclined to doubt the existence of Monsieur Mauduyt's bird, as described by him. I shall give a new title to the bird, in order to prevent confusion.

DELICATE EAGLE.

Falco delicatus. *F. cristatus albus, remigibus caudaque griseo nigroque fasciatis, cristæ penna media elongata, apice nigra.*
Crested white Eagle, with the wings and tail barred with black and grey; the middle feather of the crest elongated, and marked with a black spot at the tip.
Petit Aigle de la Guiane. *Mauduyt Encyc. Meth.*

Its length is twenty-one inches, and the plumage in general is entirely white, except the quills and tail, the feathers of which are banded chequerwise with grey and black, so that the colours on each side the shaft oppose each other: the hind-head is crested; one of the feathers, which is much longer than the rest, being marked at the end with a black spot: the wings, when closed, reach two thirds of the tail. Native of Guiana.

CHEELA EAGLE.

Falco Cheela. *F. fuscus, occipite leviter subcristato, tectricibus albo maculatis, cauda fascia media alba.*
Brown Eagle, with the hind-head very slightly crested, the wing coverts spotted with white, and a white bar across the middle of the tail.
Falco Cheela. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Cheela Eagle. *Lath. Synops.*

A LARGE species, measuring two feet in length. It is of a stout make, and of a deep brown colour, but on each side the head, before the eyes, is a mixture of white: the wing-coverts and thighs are marked with small white spots, and the tail is crossed in the middle by a white band: the bill is blue at the base, and black at the tip: the irides and legs pale yellow; and the feathers on the back of the head are slightly lengthened, though scarcely so much as to constitute a crest. Native of India, where it is called *Cheela.*

SPOTTED EAGLE.

Falco maculatus. *F. nigricans, alis albo maculatis, cauda apice albida.*
Blackish Eagle, with the wings spotted with white, and the tail whitish at the tip.
Falco maculatus. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Spotted Eagle. *Lath. synops.*
Morphno congener. ? *Raii syn. p. 7. Will. orn. p. 63.*

Size of the preceding, measuring two feet in length: colour deep, rusty, blackish brown, the wing-coverts and scapulars each marked with an oval white spot at the end; the spots becoming gradually larger as they descend, so that the shoulders appear dashed with oblong marks, while the middle of the wings exhibit large oval spots: the back-feathers are spotted with rust-colour, and the feathers on the top of the head and neck, which are of a narrow form, are tipped with pale ferruginous: the larger quill-feathers are deep brown, the smaller tipped with dull white; the upper tail coverts and the tip of the tail are also whitish: the thighs are dashed with longitudinal whitish stripes: the bill is black, and the feet yellow, the legs being feathered down to the toes. Native of Europe, and is said to be frequent in Russia. It is of a less spirited disposition than other Eagles of its size, and is remarkable for its plaintive cry. It has been sometimes trained to Falconry; but in its

wild state has been the occasional victim of that amusement, and has been subdued and brought to the ground even by so small a bird as a Sparrow-Hawk.

RING-TAILED EAGLE.

Falco fulvus. *F. nigro-ferrugineus, cera flava, cruribus plumosis, digitis flavis, cauda fascia alba.*
Black-ferruginous Eagle, with yellow cere, feathered legs, yellow feet, and tail crossed by a white bar.
Falco fulvus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Ring-tailed Eagle. *Will. orn. p.* 59.
Black Eagle. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*
White-tailed Eagle. *Edwards pl.* 1.
L'Aigle Commun. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 86.

This species is by Mr. Pennant and some others called the *Black Eagle*, from the dark colour of the plumage, which however is in reality a very deep subferruginous brown, the upper half or base of the tail being white, the remainder deep brown; the bill is horn-coloured, with a yellow cere, and the feet, which are feathered to the toes, are yellow likewise. In size this species equals the Golden Eagle, and of similar manners. It is a native both of Europe and North-America, varying in that part of the world from the European specimens in having the breast marked with small, triangular white spots. In our own island it is chiefly seen in Scotland, where it is very destruc-

tive to the smaller animals, and will even seize on roebucks, &c.

Mr. Willughby thus describes its nest. "In the year of our Lord 1668, in the woodlands, near the river Derwent in the Peak of Derbyshire, was found an Eagle's nest, made of great sticks, resting one end on the ledge of a rock, and the other on two birch-trees, upon which was a layer of rushes, and over them a layer of heath, and upon the heath rushes again; upon which lay one young one, and an addle egg, and by them a lamb and a hare, and three heath-poults. The nest was about two yards square, and had no hollow in it. The young Eagle was as black as a Hobby, of the shape of a Goshawk, of almost the weight of a Goose, rough-footed, or feathered down to the foot, having a white ring about the tail."

Mr. Willughby's description of the nest reminds us of a curious anecdote given in the life of the celebrated Thuanus or De Thou, viz. that when himself and Monsieur Schomberg were passing through that part of France, on an embassy from Henry the third to the King of Navarre, they were entertained for some days, together with their suite, at Mande, the seat of the Bishop and Count of Gevaudan. At the first repast, it was observed, with some surprise, that all the wild-fowl or game brought to table wanted either a head, a wing, a leg, or some other part, which occasioned their host pleasantly to apologize for the voracity of his caterer, who always took the liberty of first tasting

what he had procured, before it was brought to table. On perceiving the increased surprise of his guests, he informed them that in the mountainous regions of that district the Eagles were accustomed to build their eyries among the almost inaccessible rocks, which can only be ascended with ladders and grappling-irons. The peasants however, when they have discovered a nest, raise a little hut at the foot of a rock, in which they screen themselves from the fury of the birds when they convey provision to their young, which the male carefully nourishes for the space of three months, and the female continues the employment till the young are capable of quitting the eyry. While the young continue in the eyry, the parents ravage all the country, and convey to the nest Capons, Chickens, Ducks, Lambs, Kids, Pigs, &c. but the fields and woods supply them with the choicest game, for from thence they seize Pheasants, Partridges, Woodcocks, Wild-Ducks, Hares, and young Fawns. When therefore the shepherds perceive that the Eagles have left the eyry, they plant their ladders, climb the rocks, and carry off what the Eagles have conveyed to the young; leaving instead the entrails of animals or other offal; but as this cannot be done so expeditiously as to prevent the young Eagles from devouring a part of what has been brought them, it follows that it is generally mutilated; in recompence however for this disadvantage, it has a much finer flavour than any thing the markets can afford. He added, that when the young Eagle has acquired strength

enough to fly, the shepherds fasten him to the eyry, in order that the parent birds may supply him so much the longer with food; that three or four Eagle's nests were sufficient to furnish a splendid table throughout the year; and that, far from murmuring at the ravages of Eagles, he thought himself very happy in being situated in their neighbourhood, and reckoned every eyry as a kind of annual rent.

Var.?

BLACK EAGLE.

Falco Melanäetus. *F. cera lutea, pedibus semilanatis, corpore ferrugineo-nigricante, striis flavis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Blackish-ferruginous Eagle with yellow streaks, half-feathered legs, and luteous cere.
Black Eagle. *Lath. synops.*

Length two feet ten inches: general colour blackish, the head and upper part of the neck mixed with rufous: lower half of the tail white with blackish spots; the end-part blackish: bill horn-colour; legs covered with dusky-white feathers: feet yellow. Native of Europe. Perhaps a sexual difference of the Ring-tailed Eagle. It is to be observed that this is the Black Eagle of Willughby, and that the Ring-tailed Eagle is the Black Eagle of Pennant.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE

GOLDEN EAGLE

1808 Sep.r 1 London Publishd by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

GOLDEN EAGLE.

Falco Chrysäetos. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, rostro plumbeo, cera pedibusque flavis, cauda basi cinereo-undulata.*
Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with lead-coloured beak, yellow cere and feet, and tail clouded with ash-colour at the base.
Falco Chrysäetos. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Golden Eagle. *Will. orn. p.* 58. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*
Le Grand Aigle. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 76.
L'Aigle doré. *Briss. av.* 1. *p.* 431.

This is regarded as the chief of the European Eagles. Its general length, according to Pennant, and others, is three feet, and the breadth seven feet four inches; but the Count de Buffon informs us that the female is considerably larger, and Willughby, without mentioning the sex, states the length at full three feet nine inches. The bill is three inches long, and of a deep lead colour, with a yellow cere: the irides bright, golden hazel-colour; the head and neck are covered with narrow, sharp-pointed feathers of a deep brown colour, edged with tawny, particularly those on the hind part of the head: the whole body is of a dark brown colour with ferruginous or tawny clouds: the large wing-feathers are deep brown, with white shafts; and the tail brown, the base being generally marked with irregular ash-coloured bars or blotches: the legs are yellow, short, and very strong, being three inches in circumference, and feathered to the very feet, which are covered with large scales, and armed with most formidable

claws, the middle of which are two inches or more in length.

The Golden Eagle is a native of several parts of Europe and Asia, building its eyry or nest on the summits of rocks, &c.; the nest, like that of the Ring-tailed Eagle, is flat, extremely large, and composed of twigs and branches, interlaced and covered by layers of rushes, heath, &c. The female is said to lay two eggs, or three at the most, one of which is generally unproductive.

The Golden Eagle has the reputation of great longevity, and is said to have survived a century.

Var.?

WHITE EAGLE.

Falco cygneus. *F. totus albus. Lath. ind. orn.*
Eagle entirely white.
Aquila alba cygnea. *Klein. Hist. av. p. 42. Aldrov. av. p. 231. Gesn. av. p. 199.*
L'Aigle blanc. *Briss. av. 1. p. 424.*

Size of the Golden Eagle, and entirely white as snow. Mentioned by Albertus Magnus, and from him by Gesner and Aldrovandus, and succeeding writers. Albertus says it inhabits the Alps, and the rocks on the borders of the Rhine; and that it preys not only on hares, rabbets, &c. but sometimes on fish, for which reason Aldrovandus supposes it to be more allied to the Osprey than to any other kind of Eagle. It does not appear

to be known to modern naturalists. Monsieur Sonnini supposes it to be the same with the following.

CONCILIATING EAGLE.

Falco Conciliator. *F. candidus, alis apice nigris.*
White Eagle, with the tips of the wings black.
White Eagle. *Penn. Arct. Zool.*

This is mentioned by Du Pratz in his History of Louisiana, and is said to be a highly beautiful and rare species. It is entirely or very nearly white, except the tips of the wings, which are black. It is much esteemed by the natives of Louisiana on account of its feathers, with which they adorn the Calumet or Pipe of peace, which is described as consisting of a very long reed, ornamented with feathers, the bowl being made of a kind of soft red marble. This instrument always appears in solemn congresses for determining peace or war. Its acceptance, by smoking for a few moments with it, is a mark of concurrence with the terms proposed; and the refusal a certain mark of rejection. Even in the rage of a conflict the Calumet is sometimes offered; and if accepted, the instruments of destruction suddenly drop from the hands of the warriors, and an immediate truce ensues.

WHITE-HEADED EAGLE.

Falco leucocephalus. *F. cera lutea pedibusque semilunatis, corpore fusco, capite caudaque albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Brown Eagle, with white head and tail, half-feathered legs, and yellow cere and feet.
Bald Eagle. *Catesby Carol.* 1. *pl.* 1.

Length three feet three inches. Colour dark brown, except the head and tail, which are white: the bird however does not acquire the white head till the second year. It is a bird of great spirit; preying on fawns, lambs, fish, &c. "It is, says Mr. Pennant, the terror of the Osprey, whose motions it watches. The moment the latter has seized a fish, the former pursues till the Osprey drops its prey, which, with amazing dexterity, it catches before it falls to the ground, be the distance ever so great. This is matter of great amusement to the inhabitants of North America, who often watch their aerial contests."

According to Catesby this Eagle builds in vast decayed cypresses or pines, impending over the sea, or some great river, in company with Ospreys, Herons, and other birds, and the nests are so numerous as to resemble a rookery. Lawson, in his History of Carolina, says that it breeds very often, laying again under the callow young, whose warmth hatches the eggs.

CINEREOUS EAGLE.

Falco Albicilla*. *F. fusco-cinereus, capite colloque canis, caudâ alba.*
Brown-cinereous Eagle, with grey head and neck, and white tail.
Vultur Albiulla. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
The Pygarg or White-tailed Eagle. *Will. orn. p.* 61.
Cinereous Eagle. *Latham and Pennant.*

In size equal or nearly equal to the Black Eagle, Native of Europe as far North as Iceland and Lapmark, and is common in Greenland, but according to Pennant, does not proceed into America, strictly so called, unless it should vary into the White-headed Eagle, to which it has great affinity, and in particular, in its feeding so much on fish. It is said to inhabit Greenland the whole year, making its nest on lofty cliffs with twigs; lining the middle with mosses and feathers, and laying two eggs. It is found in Scotland and in the Orkney islands.

The beak, cere, and irides are of a very pale yellow; the space between that and the eyes bare, and of a blueish colour: the head and neck pale ash-colour: the body and wings cinereous, clouded with brown; the quill-feathers very dark: the tail white: the legs feathered but little below the knees, and of a very light yellow. The male is of a darker colour than the female.

* In the Systema Naturæ, by a typographical error, *Albiulla.*

Var.?

SMALLER WHITE-TAILED EAGLE

Falco Hinnularius. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, capite colli ique cinereis, cauda alba.*
Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with grey head and neck, and white tail.
Erne. *Gesn. av. p.* 205.
Le petit Pygargue. *Buff. ois.*
Lesser White-tailed Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

Size of a large Cock: length two feet two inches. bill, cere, and irides yellow: plumage above dull rust-colour, beneath ferruginous, mixed with blackish: head and neck ash-coloured, inclining to chesnut; the tips of the feathers blackish: tail white: legs yellow and naked. Inhabits Europe, and is supposed by Buffon, with great probability, to be no other than a variety of the preceding.

Var.?

AUSTRALASIN CINEREOUS EAGLE.

This is mentioned (perhaps from a drawing) by Mr. Latham, in his second Supplement, under the article *Cinereous Eagle.* Its size is said to be large, and the general colour of the plumage deep brown, but the under parts much paler, and the wings much darker than the rest: the rump and tail very pale ash-colour, nearly white; and the bill and legs black. Native of New Holland.

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Griffiths. sculp.

SEA EAGLE

1808. Sep.r 1. London. Published by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

SEA EAGLE.

Falco Ossifragus. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, cruribus seminudis flavis, rectricibus albo-nebulosis.*
Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with half-naked yellow legs, and tail feathers clouded with white.
Falco Ossifragus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Sea Eagle or Osprey. *Will. orn. p. 59.*
Sea Eagle. *Lath. & Penn.*
L'Orfraie. *Buff. ois. 1. p. 112.*

Equal, and sometimes superior in size to the Golden Eagle, to which it bears a general resemblance, and for which it has been often mistaken. Exclusive however of its much lighter colour, an invariable specific difference is afforded by the legs, which are feathered but a little way below the knees. It is a native of Europe, and is also found in North America. It preys principally on fish, which it seizes by darting down upon them, while swimming near the surface: it also preys occasionally on birds and other animals, and Mr. Pennant affirms that the Eagle represented by Barlow* with a cat in its talons is of this kind. The artist was an eye-witness to the spectacle, and in the conflict both animals fell to the ground.

The American variety is superior in size to the European; is clouded and spotted with white, and has the legs feathered half way down. It is very common in the northern parts of America, preying both on sea and land fowls, and on young seals, which it seizes while swimming.

* Barlow's Plates. No. 36.

OSPREY EAGLE.

Falco Haliætus. *F. supra fuscus, subtus albus, capite albido, cera pedibusque cæruleis.*
Brown Eagle, white beneath, with whitish head, and blue cere and legs.
Falco Haliætus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Haliætus. *Aldrov. p.* 188. *Morphnos. p.* 211.
The Bald Buzzard. *Will. orn. p.* 60.
Balbuzardus Anglorum, Bald Buzzard, or Sea Eagle. *Raii syn.*
Osprey. *Penn. Brit. Zool. Lath. syn.*
Le Balbuzard. *Buff. ois.*

The names of this and the preceding species, to use an expression of Sir Thomas Brown, present a puzzling homonymy; both being called by different writers by the name of Osprey and Sea Eagle. Its size is much inferior to that of the Falco Ossifragus, and its proportions more approach to those of the Falcon tribe. Its general length seems to be about two feet. A female observed by Mr. Pennant measured twenty-three inches in length, and five feet four inches in breadth. The bill is black, with a blue cere: the irides yellow: most of the feathers of the head brown with white margins: the hind-head, throat, and neck white, with very little mixture of brown: on each side the neck, beginning from beneath the eye, is a band of brown, reaching almost to the shoulders: the body is brown above, and white beneath: the tail-feathers transversly barred with white on the inner webs; the two middle feathers

being plain brown: the legs are naked, short, strong, and of a blueish colour, and the claws remarkably large, hooked, and black. This bird is well figured in the folio edition of the British Zoology, which figure is repeated, on a smaller scale, in the *Faunula*, annexed by Mr. Pennant to Mr. Lightfoot's *Flora Scotica*.

The Osprey frequents rivers, lakes, and the sea shores, preying on fish, which it plunges after into the water with great rapidity, and bringing them up in its talons, retires to a small distance to devour them. It also preys occasionally on water-fowl, &c.

In the Arctic Zoology it is observed that the American Osprey perfectly resembles the European. Notwithstanding it is so persecuted by the White-Headed Eagle, yet it always keeps near its haunts. It is a species of vast quickness of sight; and will see a fish near the surface from a great distance; then, descending with prodigious rapidity, carries the prey, with an exulting scream, high in the air. The Eagle pursues, and attacks the Osprey, which often drops the fish, and the Eagle seizes it before it reaches the ground. It sometimes happens that the Osprey perishes in seizing its prey; for if it chances to fix its talons on an over-grown fish, it is drawn under water before it can disengage itself, and is drowned.

The Osprey, according to Mr. Pennant, builds its nest on the ground, among reeds, and lays three or four white eggs of an elliptical form, and rather less than those of a hen.

ROUGH-FOOTED EAGLE.

Falco nævius. *F. cera iridibus pedibusque lanatis luteis, corpore ferrugineo, rectricibus basi apiceque albis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Ferruginous Eagle, with cere, irides, and feathered legs yellow, and tail white at the base and tip.
Le Petit Aigle. *Buff. ois.*
L'Aigle tacheté. *Briss. av.*
Rough-Footed Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

Described by Brisson and others as of the size of a large Cock: length two feet seven inches and a half: cere and irides yellow: general colour dull ferruginous, the wings beneath and the thighs spotted with white: under tail-coverts white: legs covered to the toes with dull ferruginous feathers spotted with white: feet yellow; claws black. Inhabits Europe, and is said to prey chiefly on rats. Brisson supposes it to be the *Morphno congener* of Aldrovandus, but Mr. Latham applies that synonym to a different species.

ASTRACHAN EAGLE.

Falco Astracanus. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, dorso abdomineque albis ferrugineo maculatis, cauda fasciis quatuor albidis.*
Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with the back and abdomen white with ferruginous spots, and the tail crossed by four pale bars.
Falco ferox. *S. G. Gmelin nov. comm. petrop.* 15. *t.* 10.
Fierce Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

LENGTH two feet one inch: head and neck tawny, mixed with whitish: eyelids blue; irides yellow: bill blackish lead-colour, with green cere. Plumage brown; dorsal, abdominal, and uropygial feathers white, with ferruginous spots: tail even, brown, marked with four paler bars. Found about the neighbourhood of Astrachan, and said to be a very ferocious as well as voracious bird, devouring carrion as well as living prey. Monsieur Sonnini doubts whether it may not be a mere variety of the Falco Fulvus.

BLACK-BACKED EAGLE.

Falco melanotus. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, gula pectore dorsoque nigris, cauda nigra basi alba.*

Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with the throat, breast, and back black, the tail black with a white base.

Black-Backed Eagle. *Brown's Illustrations of Zoology. pl. 2. Lath. synops.*

Said to be of the size of the Golden Eagle; and is of similar colour, but with the fore part of the neck and breast, the back and quills black: the tail, from the base to the middle, white; the end-half black: the bill black, with a yellow cere, the legs yellow, but covered to the toes with ferruginous feathers. Native place unknown. Described merely from a figure in Brown's Illustrations of Zoology, and, as Sonnini very properly observes, may be no other than a mere variety of the Black Eagle, (Aigle Commun Buff.) It is at all times dangerous to describe animals merely from figures, unless we could be well assured that the artist was himself a Zoologist.

MOGILNIK EAGLE.

Falco Mogilnik. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, dorso albo variato, rostro nigro, cruribus lanatis, pedibus flavis.*
Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with the back varied with white, the legs feathered, and the feet yellow.
Falco Mogilnik. *S. G. Gmelin. nov. comm. petrop.* 15. *t.* 11. *β.*
Russian Eagle. *Lath. synops.*
Le Mogilnik. *Sonnini Buff.*

LENGTH two feet three inches: plumage dusky ferruginous, or dark, with the back slightly varied by an intermixture of white: wings spotted or varied beneath with white: tail black, with a few grey bars, and tipped with ferruginous: legs feathered to the toes, which are yellow: bill black: Inhabits the midst of the deserts which border the river Tanais, and often seen about the environs of the town of *Tschercask*. Its manners are not those of the nobler Eagles, feeding principally on field-mice, small birds, &c.

BLACK-CHEEKED EAGLE.

Falco Americanus. *F. niger, capite collo pectoreque cinereis, fascia genarum transversa nigra.*
Black Eagle, with the head, neck, and breast cinereous, and a black bar across the cheeks.
Black-Cheeked Eagle. *Penn. Arct. Zool. Lath. synops.*
Falco Americanus. *Lath. ind. orn. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

SIZE of *Falco fulvus*. Head, neck, and breast deep ash-colour: each cheek marked with a broad black bar, passing from the corner of the mouth beyond the eyes: back, belly, wings, and tail black: bill lead-coloured; legs yellow, and feathered below the knees. Native of North America, and suspected by Mr. Pennant to be the species figured by Robert, among the Birds of the Menagery of Louis the fourteenth.

CHINESE EAGLE.

Falco Sinensis. *F. ferrugineus, subtus flavescens, alis caudaque fusco-fasciatis, cera pedibusque flavis.*
Ferruginous Eagle, yellowish beneath, with the wings and tail barred with brown, and yellow cere and legs.
Chinese Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

DESCRIBED and figured by Mr. Latham from a Chinese drawing lent him by Mr. Pennant. Size said to be little inferior to that of an Eagle: colour of the head and all the upper parts ferruginous,

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FRENCH EAGLE

1808. Sep.r 1. London. Publish'd by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

with a broad dusky bar across the wing-coverts, and two or three across the tail: quill-feathers dusky: bill black: thighs clothed with long feathers, feet and cere yellow: the whole under part of the bird is yellowish buff-colour, and its habit or general shape seems to resemble that of the larger Falcons. In another drawing which Mr. Latham observed in a collection on sale, was a figure which seemed to be the same bird with some variations; the head being furnished with a variegated crest, and the under parts with black markings.

FRENCH EAGLE.

Falco Gallicus. *F. rostro cinereo, pedibus nudis flavicantibus, corpore griseo-fusco, subtus (mari) albido, maculis rufescente-fuscis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Eagle with cinereous bill, naked yellowish legs, and grey-brown body, (in the male white beneath, with rufous-brown spots.)

Jean Le Blanc. *Buff. ois. Lath. syn. Pl. Enl.* 413.

This, says Mr. Latham, does not fall far short of the Black Eagle, its length being two feet one inch. The colour of the bill is cinereous; the irides yellow; the parts above grey-brown; beneath white, spotted with rufous brown: the outsides and tips of the tail-feathers are brown, within white, transversly streaked with brown: legs yellowish, naked; claws cinereous. This bird is common in

France, but seems to be rare in other parts of Europe. It feeds in the manner of the Buzzard, on mice, frogs, &c. and makes its nest on the ground, among heath, broom, furze, &c. and sometimes, though rarely, on tall trees. It lays generally three eggs, of a grey slate-colour. The female is almost entirely grey.

WHITE-CROWNED EAGLE.

Falco Leucoryphos. *F. cera cinerea, pedibus semilanatis albidis, corpore nebuloso-fusco, macula verticis trigona gulaque tota alba. Lath. ind. orn.*

Eagle with cinereous cere, half-feathered whitish legs, body clouded with brown, the throat white, and a white trigonal spot on the head.

Falco Leucoryphos. *Pall. reise.* 1. *p.* 454.

White-Crowned Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

THIS species is described in the travels of Dr. Pallas, who discovered it in the southern parts of Siberia. Its size is equal to that of an Osprey, to which it bears some resemblance, but the limbs are longer. It measures six feet in breadth, and weighs nearly six pounds. The bill is strait at the base, and the cere is of a livid ash-colour, the irides grey-brown, with a black outer circle: the head grey-brown, with a triangular white spot on the crown; the throat white; the sides of the head darker than the rest, as in the Osprey: the upper part of the body is of a clouded brown colour; the parts beneath the same, but paler: the second

coverts have grey margins: the quills are very dark; the tail longish, even at the end, black at the tip, and white beneath; some of the side-feathers are dotted within with white: the legs are pale, one third of the shins being covered with feathers.

PONDICHERRY EAGLE.

Falco Pondicerianus. *F. castaneus, capite collo pectoreque albis, cera cærulea, pedibus flavis.*
Chesnut-coloured Eagle, with white head, neck, and breast, blue cere, and yellow feet.
Aigle de Pondicherry. *Buff. ois. p.* 136. *Pl. enl.* 416.
Pondicherry Eagle. *Lath. syn. Nat. Misc. vol.* 10. *pl.* 389.

A HIGHLY elegant species, equal, or nearly equal in size to a Jerfalcon. Length about a foot and a half: head, neck, breast, and upper part of the abdomen white, the remainder of the bird reddish chesnut-colour, the wings slightly tipped with black: bill and legs yellow: cere blue. In the bird described by the Count de Buffon the shafts of the neck and breast feathers are dashed with a chesnut streak; but in a specimen preserved in the British Museum these parts are entirely white. It is an inhabitant of many parts of India, and in Malabar is esteemed a sacred bird. It is extremely voracious, flying in company with Kites, and feeding not only on living prey, but on the entrails and other remains of dead animals.

STATENLAND EAGLE.

Falco Australis. *F. fuscus, cera flava, cauda nigra apice lutescente. Lath. ind. orn.*
Brown Eagle, with yellow cere, and black tail with a yellowish tip.
Statenland Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

SIZE of the Plaintive Vulture: length twenty-five inches: cere yellow; body brown; tail black, tipped with yellowish white. Observed in Statenland by Dr. G. R. Forster. Its cry exactly resembles that of a Hen.

AUSTRALASIAN WHITE EAGLE.

Falco Albus. *F. albus, rostro nigro, cera pedibusque flavis.*
White Eagle, with black beak, and yellow cere and legs.
Falco Novæ Hollandiæ. *Lath. ind. orn.*
New Holland White Eagle. *Lath. syn.*
White Hawk. *White's Journ. of Voy. to New South Wales. p.* 250.

LENGTH about twenty inches, the size being rather superior to that of a Hen-Harrier, to which it appears to be considerably allied. The whole plumage is white, without any variegation; the bill black with a yellow cere, and the legs yellow. Native of New Holland. In Mr. White's Voyage to New South Wales I have described this bird under the title of *White Hawk*, and indeed it

seems rather to belong to that tribe than to the Eagles properly so called.

ALBESCENT EAGLE.

Falco albescens. *F. albescens subcristatus, supra fusco-flavescente varius, cauda nigra albo-fasciata.*
Whitish subcristated Eagle, varied above with yellowish brown, with black tail barred with white.
Le Blanchard. *Levaillant ois. Afr. No.* 3.

About a third less than the Golden Eagle, and of a more slender shape: plumage soft, whitish, and slightly tinged with yellow-brown, especially on the upper parts: quill-feathers brownish: tail barred with black and white, and longer than the wings: legs feathered to the feet, which are of a bright yellow: bill lead-colour: on the back of the head a slight crest, less conspicuous in the female.

This species is an inhabitant of the parts of Africa bordering on the Cape of Good Hope, and was observed by Levaillant in the Woods of the country of the *Hottniquas*. It is a bird of bold manners, and of rapid flight; preying on partridges, pigeons, &c. It suffers no other bird of prey to come near its haunt, but, if we may rely on the attestation of Monsieur Vaillant, will permit small birds to reside near it, and even to perch upon its nest, without offering them any violence; and even protecting them against the attacks of other rapacious birds. The nest is built on the

top of some high tree, and contains two white eggs of the size of those of a Turkey, but rounder. The male and female perform the task of incubation in turn.

VOCIFEROUS EAGLE.

Falco Vocifer. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, nigro undulatus, capite collo pectore caudaque albis.*

Brown-ferruginous Eagle, undulated with black, with the head, neck, breast and tail white.

Le Vocifer. *Vaill. ois. Afr. pl.* 4.

This, according to Monsieur Levaillant, its discoverer, is one of the finest of the whole Aquiline tribe, and is not only distinguished by the beauty of its colours, but by the elegance of its shape. It is equal in size to an Osprey*, (Orfraie.) The fore parts of the body, and the tail, are white; the remainder rufous brown intermixed with black; but, to be more particular; the feathers of the head and neck are white with brown edges, and the scapular-feathers are of similar colour: those of the breast have a few longitudinal dashes of blackish brown: the rest of the plumage is brown-ferruginous, undulated with black: the smaller wing-coverts are of a paler cast, and the neighbouring scapular-feathers are mixed with black, and

* Monsieur Levaillant, I presume, means the *Falco Haliætus*, but the *Orfraie* of the French is the Falco *Ossifragus*.

form an agreeable contrast with the white of the others which extend in a pointed form down the back: the wing-feathers are black, and as it were finely marbled with rufous and white on their exterior sides: the lower part of the back and upper tail-coverts are black intermixed with dull white: between the beak and eye is a bare yellowish skin, beset with scattered hairs: the base of the beak, the legs, and the feet are also yellowish: the feathers of the thighs descend about half an inch down the leg in front: the beak and claws are of a blue horn-colour: the craw, which is slightly visible, is covered with long, frizzled down: the tail is slightly rounded; the side feathers being shortest, and the others successively lengthening to the two middle-feathers. The female has much less of the black in its plumage; the white is less pure, and the rufous brown less deep: the female however is stronger than the male. The wings, when closed, reach to the extremity of the tail, and their extent, when spread, is nearly eight feet. It is not till the third year that this species acquires its full colours. In its first year the grey prevails instead of the white: in the second the white commences; and in the third the plumage appears in complete beauty. The male and female are inseparable companions, hunting their prey, flying, and resting together. Like most other Eagles, they place their nest either on the top of lofty trees, or on the points of rocks, and line it with wool, feathers, &c. the eggs are white, and

of the same shape with those of a Turkey, but whiter.

The flight of these birds is rapid, and they rise to a vast height, the male often uttering a loud and singular cry. Their principal prey is fish, which they seize by plunging with incredible celerity into the water. They therefore constantly frequent the neighbourhood of the sea shore, or that of such rivers as abound most in fish. They also feed on a kind of large lizard, very common, according to Monsieur Vaillant, in many of the African rivers, and will even sometimes prey on young Antelopes, but never on birds.

BLAGRE EAGLE.

Falco Blagrus. *F. fuscus, capite collo cauda corporeque subtus toto albis. Lath. Suppl. ind. orn. 2. No. 18.*

Brown Eagle, with the head, neck, tail, and whole body beneath white.

Le Blagre. *Levaill. Ois. Afr. pl. 5.*

This is so nearly allied, both in form and manners, to the European Osprey, (Falco Haliætus) that it might be considered as a variety of that bird. The head, neck, and all the foreparts of the body are white with a satin lustre, but the head and back of the neck are streaked with pale brown: the smaller wing-coverts, shoulders, and tail are grey-brown; the latter being tipped with

white: the wings are blackish brown, with paler edges: the beak brownish, and the iris deep brown: the legs yellow, and the claws black. It frequents the borders of rivers, preying on fish, which it plunges entirely under water to seize.

ÆQUINOCTIAL EAGLE.

Falco æquinoctialis. *F. pedibus luteis, corpore nigricante ferrugineo vario, remigibus medio ferrugineis, rectricibus V albo notatis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Eagle with luteous cere, blackish body varied with ferruginous, wing-feathers ferruginous in the middle, and tail marked with V-shaped white spots.

Æquinoctial Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

NATIVE of Cayenne: length twenty-one inches: bill pale: body rufous beneath, with dusky transverse streaks, each feather being barred with four stripes: wings reaching to one third of the tail, which is nearly black, with the two middle feathers plain, and all the rest marked about the middle with a white V-shaped spot, pointing upwards.

MANSFENY EAGLE.

Falco Antillarum. *F. corpore toto fusco. Lath. ind. orn.*
Eagle with the body entirely brown.
Mansfeny Eagle. *Lath. syn.*
Mansfeny. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 144.
Falco Antillarum. *Briss. av.* 1. *p.* 361.

THIS, which is described by Buffon, has the shape and plumage of an Eagle, differing only in size, which is not superior to that of a Falcon. Its colour is entirely brown: legs and feet very strong. Native of the Antilles or Caribbee islands, preying on small birds, snakes, lizards, &c.

SHORT-TAILED EAGLE.

Falco ecaudatus. *F. niger, alis pallidis, dorso caudaque breviore rufis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Black Eagle, with pale wings, rufous back and tail, the latter very short.
Le Bateleur. *Levaill. Ois. Afr. pl.* 7. 8.
Short-tailed Falcon. *Lath. syn. suppl.* 2.

THIS is one of the species for which we are indebted to the indefatigable zeal of Monsieur Levaillant, who informs us that it partakes of the nature both of the Eagle and the Vulture, but is more nearly allied to the former. Its size is between that of the Sea Eagle and the Osprey, and differs from other Eagles in having the bill less

strong, the claws less curved, and the tail very short: the legs are also naked or unfeathered: the beak and claws are black; the membrane at the base of the beak yellowish; the head, neck, breast, and body beneath are all deep black, forming a fine contrast with the deep rufous of the back and tail: scapulars dusky, with a blueish grey cast in certain lights: all the small wing-coverts are of an Isabella colour; the quills black, edged outwardly with silver-grey: the irides are deep brown. The female is of paler colours, and is a fourth larger than the male. The young birds have the beak horn-coloured, with a blueish cere; the plumage brown, less deep on the head and neck; all the feathers edged with pale brown, and the feet yellowish. As they advance in age, the rufous feathers begin to appear on the head and rump, and the black ones on the belly: and it is not till the third moulting that they acquire their complete colouring.

This species is very common in the whole country of the *Hottniquas*, and along the coast of *Terra de Natal* as far as *Caffraria*. Like the Vociferous Eagle, the male and female are inseparable: they build their nest on high trees, and the females lay from three to four white eggs: they prey chiefly on dead animals; yet often attack young Antelopes and Ostriches, and lie in wait for lambs, and sheep which happen to be in a weakly state. Monsieur Levaillant has seen the female feed her young by disgorging the contents of her craw. It must therefore be confessed that this

species might without impropriety be arranged among the Vultures.

TIGER EAGLE.

Falco tigrinus. *F. fuscus subtus albus, femoribus fusco maculatis, tectricibus alarum inferioribus nigro fasciatis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*

Brown Eagle, white beneath, with the thighs spotted with brown, and the under wing-coverts banded with black.

Tiger Falcon. *Lath. syn. suppl.* 2.

Falco tigrinus. *Besek. Vog. Kurl. S.* 10. 11.

Size of the Golden Eagle, or even larger: cere blue; irides and legs yellow: head, neck and breast pale brown, but the upper parts of both black; the crown being streaked with that colour: the rest of the upper parts dull brown; quills black: greater wing-coverts black brown or paler; tail dull brown, crossed with three narrow distinct bands: beneath, from the breast, white, marked with some light brown spots on the thighs, and under part of the wings, in the manner of a tiger. Described from a male bird. Said to inhabit Courland, and to be an extremely fierce as well as beautiful bird, preying on the grous tribe, and on hares, &c.

COURLAND EAGLE.

Falco Germanicus. *F. rufo-albus, dorso alis caudaque fuscis, rectricibus fasciis quatuor pallentibus. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*

Rufous-white Eagle, with the back, wings, and tail brown, the latter marked by four pale bars.

Der rothlichweisse Falke. *Besek. Vog. Kurl. S.* 10. 12. *a.* & 13. *b.*

Courland Falcon. *Lath. Suppl.* 2.

THIS also is said to inhabit Courland, and is rather smaller than the preceding. Its general colour is a reddish dusky white, the back, wings, and tail dull brown, the tips of the wings paler: the head, neck, and breast are spotted with brown: the feathers of the thighs brown, each feather having an oval spot at the tip of that colour: cere, irides, and legs yellow. Male and female much alike in colour, but the male about a fourth part smaller than the female.

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DRANSBERG EAGLE.

Falco Glaucopis. *F. cera et pedibus semilanatis citrinis, dorso et pectore fusco, capite et cervice ex flavicante albis, striis fuscis, remigibus nigris. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Eagle with the cere and half-feathered legs citron-coloured; back and breast brown, head and neck yellowish white with black streaks, and black wing-feathers.

Merrem Beytr. 2. p. 25. t. 7.

TOTAL length rather more than one foot nine inches: openings of the nostrils large and oval, and covered behind with black bristles: tongue fleshy in the middle; horny at the edges, and scarcely divided at the tip: thighs short, and beset with soft feathers: legs covered half way with woolly down: breast and back brown: on the front small crescent-shaped streaks: head and top of the neck yellowish, varied with brown: wings black: tail reddish brown above, and dull white beneath, with six black bands. Found on the mountain called *Dransberg* near Gottingen.

COMMON KITE.

Falco Milvus. *F. fusco ferrugineoque varius, capite albido fusco striato, cauda ferruginea forficata.*
Kite with brown and ferruginous variegations, whitish head streaked with brown, and ferruginous forked tail.
Falco Milvus. *F. cera flava, cauda forficata, corpore ferrugineo, capite albidiore. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Milvus. *Gesn. Aldr. Will. &c.*
Kite. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*

The Kite is so common in England as to supersede the necessity of any very particular description of its figure and manners. Its general length is something more than two feet, and its breadth five feet: the bill is two inches long, and very much bent or hooked at the end; the cere yellow, and the irides straw-coloured: the whole upper part of the body is ferruginous brown, the edges of the feathers brighter or yellower than the middle: the tail bright ferruginous: the edges both of wings and tail dusky or blackish: the head and neck are pale ash-colour, or whitish, the feathers being of a narrow or slender form on those parts, and each marked down the shaft by a dark streak: the under parts of the body are yellow-ferruginous, with longitudinal dusky spots: the legs yellow, and the claws strong and brown: the tail is forked, by which mark it is at once distinguished from every other British bird of prey.

No one can be unacquainted with the elegant appearance of this bird while sailing aloft in its

circling flight, and maintaining its equilibrium by a slight exertion of its pinions at distant intervals. During these wanderings it is meditating its prey beneath, and occasionally descends from its aerial height in order to seize some bird or other animal within its view. It principally preys on young chickens, ducks, goslings, &c. and is in consequence proscribed by the universal voice of every village in the country. Were it not for these depredations its appearance would be welcomed as the harbinger of clear skies and fine weather; for it is in such that it makes its principal excursions. It breeds in large forests, and wooded hilly countries; and its nest is said to be composed of sticks and twigs, and lined with a kind of miscellaneous assortment of wool, pieces of rope, fragments of flannel, paper, or any other articles which it happens to find on the ground. It lays two, and sometimes three eggs, which are white, roundish, and marked with dull-yellow spots.

In the days of King Henry the eighth, as appears from the observations of the celebrated Clusius, (L'Ecluse) the British metropolis itself swarmed with Kites, which were attracted by the various kind of offals thrown into the streets, and were so fearless as to take their prey in the midst of the greatest crowds, it being forbidden to kill them. Thus the Kite was as much reverenced in the streets of London in those times as the Vulture is at present in those of Grand Cairo or Alexandria. The descent of a Kite at the present day, in Cheapside or Charing-Cross, would probably at-

tract as sudden a crowd as any other unexpected phenomenon, and would doubtless be recorded in the public prints as an event of singular curiosity.

Var?

RUSSIAN KITE.

Length twenty-one inches and a half: colour pale brown, with bright chesnut head and throat: bill lead-colour, cere green; legs yellow; tail forked. Described in the Petersburg Transactions, and said to be often found at *Tanain* near *Tscbercask*.

BLACK KITE.

Falco ater. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, corpore supra fusco-nigro, capite et subtus albidiore, cauda forficata. Lath. ind. orn.*
Blackish-brown Kite, with yellow cere and legs, head and under parts whitish, and forked tail.
Falco ater. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Black Kite. *Lath. syn.*

SMALLER than the Common Kite, and of a dark blackish brown colour above, with the head, breast, and under parts whitish: bill, cere, and legs like those of the Common Kite. Native of Germany.

AUSTRIAN KITE.

Falco Austriacus. *F. cera pedibusque semilanatis flavis, capite corporeque supra castaneo, pennarum scapis nigris, rectricibus fuscis fasciis nigris, apicibus albis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Kite with cere and semiplumed legs yellow, head and body above chesnut, with the shafts of the quills black, and brown tail with black bars and white tip.

Austrian Kite. *Lath. syn,*

Size equal to that of the Common Kite: colour chesnut, the shafts of the wings being black; the belly brown-chesnut spotted with dark brown: tail even, crossed with several black bars, and tipped with white: legs and bill as in the Common Kite: fore-head and throat whitish with brown spots. Native of Austria, living principally in woods

CARACARA KITE.

Falco Brasiliensis. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore rufo albo flavoque punctato, rectricibus fusco alboque variegatis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Kite with yellow legs, rufous body, with white yellow and rufous spots, and tail varied with brown and white.

Brasilian Kite called *Caracara. Will. orn. p. 76.*

Mentioned by Willughby from Marcgrave's Brasil, who however does not call it a Kite, but rather a Sparrow-Hawk (Nisus). Its size is that of a Kite, and it preys on poultry. Native of Brasil.

SWALLOW-TAILED FALCON.

Falco furcatus. *F. albus, dorso alis caudaque longissima forficata purpureo-nigricantibus.*

White Falcon, with the back, wings, and very long forked tail purplish black.

Falco furcatus. *F. cera obscura, pedibus flavescentibus, corpore supra fusco subtus albido, cauda forficata longissima. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Swallow-tailed Hawk. *Catesb. Carol.* 1. *p.* 4. *pl.* 4.

This species is a native of America, and may certainly be considered as one of the most beautiful birds of the present genus. Its length is about two feet, and its proportions in the highest degree elegant: the wings very long and slender, and the tail more sharply forked in proportion than in a swallow: the back, wings, and tail are of a rich purplish black, with a gloss of changeable green; the head, neck, and whole under parts, together with the thighs, milk white, in some specimens very slightly tinctured with a cast of pale yellow: the insides of the smaller wing-feathers, towards the tips, are also white: the bill is black, rather small, curved, and extremely sharp-pointed: the legs short, and the thighs covered somewhat lower than the knees with lengthened plumes. The whole bird, on a general view, has so much the appearance of some gigantic species of Swallow, that we cannot be surprised at the assertion of the elder Scaliger, who affirms that he had seen an exotic Swallow or Swift of the size of a Buzzard,

but of the colour of a common Swallow, and no otherwise differing, except in having a hooked beak and strong claws, like those of a bird of prey.

In its manners as well as in its aspect this bird bears a resemblance to the Swallow tribe: it feeds principally on insects, which it catches in its flight, and is often observed to tear off the nests of wasps, as it glides along the trees on which they are fixed: it preys also on the smaller kind of snakes, lizards, &c.

The Count de Buffon has very properly observed, that this bird should rather be considered as a native of South than of North America, since it migrates from the latter into the former on the least approach of cold weather.

The best figure of this most elegant species hitherto given is that in Mr. Pennant's Arctic Zoology, which yet is scarce sufficiently expressive of its beautiful shape: that of Catesby is a very inferior representation.

COMMON BUZZARD.

Falco Buteo. *F. supra fusco ferrugineoque subtus albo ferrugineoque varius, cera pedibusque luteis, cauda fusco fasciata.*
Buzzard varied above with brown and ferruginous, beneath with white and ferruginous, with luteous cere and legs, and tail banded with brown.
Falco Buteo. *F. cera pedibusque luteis, corpore fusco, abdomine pallido maculis fuscis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Common Buzzard, or Puttock. *Will. orn. Penn. Brit. Zool.*

The Buzzard, like the Kite, is so well known in England as to require no very elaborate description. Its size exceeds that of a Kite, the body being of a heavier or thicker form: its general length is about one foot eight inches, and its breadth four feet and a half: the bill is lead-colour, the cere and legs yellow: in colour the Buzzard is apt to vary considerably, but is usually of a ferruginous brown above, and yellowish white beneath, with large longitudinal brown spots and dashes: the middle of the back, as in the Kite, is covered merely with a thick white down: the larger wing-feathers are blotched internally with dull white and brown bars, and the tail is marked with cinereous and dusky, or ferruginous bars, that next the tip being broader and darker than the rest.

The Buzzard is well figured both in the folio and smaller editions of the British Zoology. It is supposed to be the most common in this country of all the Hawk tribe, breeding in woods, and usually building in some old crow's nest, which

it enlarges, and lines with wool or other soft materials: it lays two or three eggs, which, according to Mr. Pennant, are sometimes white, and sometimes spotted with yellow. It is said that if the hen be accidentally killed, the cock Buzzard will hatch and bring up the young. It is observed also that the young accompany the old birds for some time after quitting the nest; a circumstance unusual in other birds of prey, which always drive off their young as soon as they can fly. The Buzzard is a very sluggish and inactive bird, continuing perched on the same bough for the greatest part of the day, and seldom wandering from its accustomed haunt or spot. It feeds on the smaller birds, as well as on worms, frogs, and insects of various kinds.

Var.

ASH-COLOURED BUZZARD.

Rather larger than the Common Buzzard, and of an ash-coloured brown above, varied beneath with white: tail marked with numerous dusky bars. Native of North America. Perhaps this should rather be considered as a distinct species.

GREATER BUZZARD.

A trifle larger than the Common Buzzard, and of similar colour above, but beneath rufous, with oval brown spots. Native of Europe.

SPOTTED BUZZARD.

Smaller than the preceding, being of the size of a Common Buzzard: colour above the same, but more variegated with white; the smaller quills being of that colour from their middles almost to the tips; which are blackish: upper wing coverts spotted with ash-colour, and a transverse blackish bar across the wings. Native of Europe.

CREAM-COLOURED BUZZARD.

Of a dusky cream-colour or brownish buff, with a mixture of brown on the back and some bars of brown across the wing-coverts: abdomen and sides somewhat irregularly blotched with brown: tail rather shorter than in the Common Buzzard. Native of Jamaica.

SPECKLED BUZZARD.

Falco variegatus. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore fusco, subtus albo fusco maculato, capite colloque albidis striis ferrugineo fuscis, tectricibus alarum albo maculatis, rectricibus albo fasciatis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Buzzard with yellow legs and brown body, white beneath speckled with brown, head and neck whitish with ferruginous-brown streaks, and tail-feathers banded with white.

LENGTH rather more than twelve inches: shape that of the Common Buzzard: wing-coverts spotted with white: tail dark brown, crossed by several obscure white bars. Native of North America. This species seems to be described in the Arctic Zoology of Mr. Pennant under the name of Buzzardet.

AMERICAN BUZZARD.

Falco Borealis. *F. cera pedibusque luteis, corpore fusco, abdomine albo maculis hastatis nigris, cauda ferruginea fascia ad apicem nigra. Lath. ind. orn.*

Buzzard with deep yellow cere and legs, brown body, white abdomen with spear-shaped black spots, and ferruginous tail with a black bar at the tip.

SIZE of a Common Buzzard, or a trifle larger. Native of North America.

HARPY BUZZARD.

Falco rufus. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore rufo maculis longitudinalibus vario, dorso fusco, rectricibus cinereis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Rufous Buzzard with longitudinal brown spots, brown back, ash-coloured quill-feathers, and yellow legs.
La Harpaye. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 217.
Le Buzzard roux. *Briss. av.* 1. *p.* 404.

Size of a female Goshawk: general colour rufous, but the wing-coverts and rump brown: greater quills black, and smaller ash-colour: tail ash-colour: bill black: irides orange. Native of Germany and France, frequenting low grounds, and the banks of rivers, and preying often on fish.

BARRED-BREASTED BUZZARD.

Falco lineatus. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, corpore fusco ferrugineo alboque vario, pectore rufo albo fasciato, rectricibus fasciis duabus albis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Buzzard with yellow cere and legs, body varied with brown, ferruginous and white, breast rufous with white bars, and tail marked with two white bars.
Barred-Breasted Buzzard. *Lath. syn.*
Red-Shouldered Falcon? *Penn. Arct. Zool.*

Length twenty inches: size that of the Common Buzzard: parts above deep brown, the feathers having ferruginous margins; but the greater wing-coverts margined with white: the greater quills black, marked on the outer edge with white

spots, except toward the tip: fore part of the neck and breast rufous, with black shafts, besides which, both on the breast and belly, are interrupted white and pale-ferruginous bars: tail rather short; deep brown, with two narrow bars of dull white. Mr. Latham, in his *Index ornithologicus*, supposes this the same with the *Red-Shouldered Falcon* of Pennant, described in the Arctic Zoology. If so, the bird probably varies much in colour. Mr. Pennant describes the smaller wing-coverts as ferruginous, spotted with black, and the tail as crossed by seven white bands; the bill slender and dusky, and the legs weak. Native of North America.

HONEY-BUZZARD.

Falco apivorus. *F. fuscus, alis cinereo fasciatis, subtus albus fasciis subferrugineis transversis.*
Brown Buzzard, with cinereous bands on the wings; beneath white, with transverse subferruginous bars.
Falco apivorus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
La Bondreé. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 208.
Honey-Buzzard. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*

This is one of the most elegant of the British birds of prey. Its size is that of a common Buzzard, which it exceeds a few inches in length, on account of its more slender shape: the plumage above is dusky brown, the larger quill-feathers cinereous on their exterior sides, the larger coverts

crossed by a cinereous band with dusky lines, and the crown of the head ash-coloured: the under parts are white, with pretty numerous dusky-ferruginous transverse bands, consisting of so many rows of slightly lengthened spots of that colour: the tail is of a brown colour, crossed by two or three dusky bands, the spaces between each being marked by dusky lines or much narrower bars: the bill and cere are brown; the legs yellow. This bird however appears to vary considerably in the disposition of its colours, and has been seen of an uniform brown both above and below, with an ash-coloured band across the wings: the spots on the under parts are also described by some authors as longitudinal, but without any mention of their being disposed into transverse rows.

The Honey-Buzzard is considered by Willughby as a non-descript species, "*though frequent enough with us.*" It is however at present regarded as of rather rare occurrence in England. "It builds its nest, says Willughby, of small twigs, laying upon them wool, and upon the wool its eggs. We saw one that made use of an old Kite's nest to breed in, and that fed its young with the Nymphæ of Wasps: for in the nest we found the combs of wasp's nests, and in the stomachs of the young the limbs and fragments of wasp-maggots. There were in the nest only two young ones, covered with a white down, spotted with black. Their feet were of a pale yellow, their bills between the nostrils and the head white. Their craws large, in which were Lizards, Frogs, &c. In the crop of one of them

we found two Lizards entire, with their heads lying towards the mouth, as if they sought to creep out." Mr. Willughby adds, that it differs from the Common Buzzard in having a longer tail, an ash-coloured head, the irides of the eyes yellow, thicker and shorter feet, and in the broad transverse dun beds or strokes in the wings and tail, which are about three inches broad.

The most expressive figure of this bird is that in the folio edition of the British Zoology.

MOOR BUZZARD.

Falco æruginosus. *F. fuscus, vertice luteo, cera pedibusque flavis.*

Brown Buzzard, with the crown of the head luteous; the cere and legs yellow.

Falco æruginosus. *F. cera virescente, corpore griseo, vertice gula axillis pedibusque luteis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Moor Buzzard. *Will. orn. Penn. Brit. Zool. Lath. syn.*

Le Busard. *Buff. ois. 1. p. 218. pl. 10. Pl. Enl. 424.*

Size smaller than that of the Falco apivorus, to which it seems extremely allied, but differs in colour, which is a deep subferruginous brown, except on the upper part of the head, which is distinguished by a large yellow-ferruginous patch, sometimes accompanied with a few scattered spots of the same colour on the upper part of the neck, and sometimes even extending in a continued bed of colour over the neck and shoulders: the bill is

black, with a yellow cere; and the legs are yellow, long, and slender. This species frequents heaths and low watery grounds, and preys upon various kinds of water-birds, as young ducks, &c. It also, according to Mr. Pennant, is a great destroyer of rabbits and fish. It makes its nest, which is said to be composed of sticks, dry sedges and leaves, in the midst of a tuft of grass or rushes. It is never observed to soar, like most other Hawks, but either to sit on the ground, or on some low bush. It is sometimes seen entirely brown, or without the least appearance of pale luteous on the head, &c.

VAR?

This, which is described by Doctor R. Forster in the Philosophical Transactions under the name of *Falco spadiceus* or *Chocolate Falcon*, and by Mr. Pennant in the Arctic Zoology by the same title, is, according to Mr. Latham, no other than a variety of the Moor Buzzard, being merely rather smaller, and without any spot on the head. It should be observed however, that Doctor Forster describes it as *much less* than the European Moor Buzzard. The specimen described was sent from Hudson's Bay. Mr. Pennant's Chocolate-Coloured Falcon measures one foot ten inches, and is of a deep bay or chocolate-colour, but with a patch or speculum of pure white on the wings, formed by the lower exterior side of the greater quill-feathers. A farther variety has been mentioned by Mr. Latham under the title of *Placentia Falcon*, entirely

of a dusky-ferruginous colour, except a few slight dashes of white on the breast. Said to be a native of Newfoundland.

GOSHAWK.

Falco palumbarius. *F. fuscus fascia superciliari alba, subtus albus lineis transversis fuscis.*
Brown Falcon with white superciliary stripe; beneath white, with transverse brown lines.
Falco palumbarius. *F. cera nigra margine pedibusque flavis, corpore fusco, rectricibus fasciis pallidis, superciliis albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Accipiter palumbarius. *Raii. syn.* Goshawk. *Will. orn.*
L'Autour. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 230. *pl.* 12. (Young.) *Pl. Enl.* 418. (full grown.)

Size similar to that of the Jerfalcon: general length nearly two feet: colour above deep brown, beneath white, marked with numerous transverse blackish bars; but, in the younger or less advanced specimens, with oblong or lengthened spots: the feathers on the thighs, as in most other Falcons, are long and large, and the tail, which considerably exceeds the length of the wings when closed, is of a brownish ash-colour, with five moderately broad, distant, dusky bars: the bill is blueish, the legs yellow, and the feet furnished with very strong claws, particularly on the back toe. The whole bird is of an elegant form, and by the old Falconers was considered as the chief of the short-winged Hawks, or such whose wings when closed do not

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Gruith. sculp.

GOSHAWK

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reach to the end of the tail. Like some others of the Falcon tribe, the Goshawk is sometimes seen entirely white, and sometimes white, elegantly varied with brown. In both these states it may be distinguished from the white Jerfalcon by the greater length of the tail, on which may be also distinguished the traces of the distant broad bars which it exhibits in its common or general state. The Goshawk is a native of many of the middle and northern parts both of Europe and Asia, and is found in some parts of our own island; breeding in Scotland on the tops of high trees, and preying on every kind of game, &c.

VAR.

A most beautiful specimen of the Goshawk in in its white, or rather in its mixed state, answered to the following description, viz. Length nearly two feet: colour white, elegantly varied above with pale brown: the head and neck streaked with longitudinal deep-brown dashes: the breast and under parts marked down the middle of each feather with a leaf-shaped spot: the bill and feet pale yellow, the claws very strong and black, especially the hind claw.

JERFALCON.

Falco Gyrfalco. *F. fuscus, subalbido variatus, subtus albidus maculis fuscis, cauda fasciis numerosis fuscis.*
Brown Falcon with whitish variegations, beneath white with brown spots, and tail with numerous brown bars.
Falco Gyrfalco. *F. cera cærulea, pedibus luteis, corpore fusco, subtus fasciis cinereis, caudæ lateribus albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Iceland Falcon. *Gent. magaz. vol. 41. p. 297.*
Le Gerfault. *Buff. ois.*
Brown Jerfalcon. *Lath. synops.*
Jerfault d'Islande. *Planches Enluminées* 210.
Jerfault de Norvege. *Planches Enluminées* 462.
White Jerfalcon. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*
White Jerfalcon. *Lath. synops.*
Falco candicans. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Le Gerfault. *Briss. ois. 1. p. 370. t. 30. f. 2.*
Gerfault blanc du pays du Nord. *Planches Enluminées* 446.

This species, by the almost unanimous consent of authors, stands at the head of the Falcons properly so called, and is considered as the boldest and most beautiful of the tribe. It is a native of the northern regions, and is found in its greatest perfection in Iceland. In size it equals, and perhaps rather exceeds the Goshawk, which it resembles in its shape, but has longer wings and shorter legs in proportion. Its general colour is brown above, in deeper and lighter variegations, and whitish beneath, with brown longitudinal spots; those on the neck and thighs, which latter are well covered with long and large feathers, being in the form of longitudinal streaks, and sometimes in

bars: the tail is crossed by numerous deeper and lighter bands, and the bill and legs are generally blueish: it is allowed however by the best informed ornithologists that this bird varies infinitely in the particular cast of its colour, which in some exhibits a considerable mixture of white in its plumage; in others so much that it might rather be described as white with brown variegations, than as brown with white ones; while in others the bird is either completely white, or slightly spotted and streaked with brown. In these varieties it is also observed that the bill and legs sometimes vary into pale yellow, though more commonly pale blue. From these changes in the plumage of the Jerfalcon seems to have arisen the wonderful discordance in the descriptions of authors; which have amounted at length to so confused an assemblage of contradictory characters as almost to set at defiance all attempts to reconcile them. The Norwegian and Swedish Jerfalcons are brown, or of the first denomination, and seem to constitute the *Falco Gyrfalco* of Linnæus. The Iceland Jerfalcons are those which afford the mixed and white varieties, and these have been often distinguished by authors, as distinct species, under the name of *Falco Icelandicus* or Iceland Falcon emphatically so called. Jerfalcons in their elegantly mixed plumage, in which the white greatly prevails, are sometimes found in Scotland, and a specimen is represented in the British Zoology of Mr. Pennant. It is observed by Monsieur Daudin, in his ornithological work, that the beak of the Jerfalcon has but a

very slight appearance of the tooth-like process on each side, so conspicuous in many of the Accipitrine tribe; but this I consider as a very uncertain criterion; since in the best and most authentic figures and descriptions of the Jerfalcon, the notch in the bill is often very conspicuous; not to mention, that Mr. Pennant in his Arctic Zoology expressly describes the upper mandible as "*sharply angulated on the lower edges.*"

GENTIL FALCON.

Falco Gentilis. *F. fuscus, ferrugineo undulatus, subtus albo-flavescens maculis subcordatis fuscis, cauda fasciis quatuor nigricantibus.*

Brown Falcon with ferruginous undulations, beneath yellowish-white with subcordate brown spots, the tail crossed by four blackish bars.

Falco gentilis. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, corpore cinereo maculis fuscis, cauda fasciis quatuor nigricantibus. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Falco montanus ? *Raii. syn. p.* 13.

Falcon gentle. *Will. orn. p.* 79.

Gentil Falcon. *Penn. Brit. Zool. p.* 154. *pl.* 21. *Lath. syn.* 1. *p.* 64.

Faucon Gentil. *Daudin orn. p.* 102.

This is described as a degree larger than the Goshawk; with the head brown-ferruginous, marked with oblong black spots, the upper part of the body and wings brown, each feather tipped with ferruginous; the under parts whitish, with brown spots and dashes, which in the young or yearling

bird are said to be rather transverse than longitudinal; the quills dusky, barred on the outer webs with black, and on the lower part of the inner webs marked with white: the wings reach to the middle of the tail, which is alternately banded with black and ash-colour, and tipped with white: the bill is lead-coloured, and the cere yellow: the legs are of the same colour, and rather short, the thighs being well covered with feathers.

The Count de Buffon supposes this bird to be the head or representative of the Common Falcon, or in other words, the bird in its full plumage and perfection, for which reason it has obtained among Falconers the title of Falcon Gentil; but it is observed by a more modern ornithologist, Monsieur Daudin, that in this particular Buffon was mistaken or misinformed; that the present bird constitutes a really distinct species from the Common Falcon, though greatly allied to it; and that the Falconers call the Common Falcon, when in full plumage, and completely bred or trained, by the title of Falcon Gentil also; so that no stress is to be laid on this circumstance. Monsieur Sonnini also, in his improved edition of the Count de Buffon's Natural History, is of the same opinion.

The Falcon Gentil is figured on the fiftieth plate of the smaller editions of the British Zoology. I have heard it maintained, on the faith of an eminent Falconer, that the Falcon Gentil is in reality no other than a young or incomplete *Goshawk*.

COMMON FALCON.

Falco communis. *F. fuscus rufo undulatus, cauda subnigrò fasciata, pectore abdomineque albidis fusco maculatis.*
Brown Falcon, with rufous undulations, the tail marked by dusky bars; the breast and belly whitish, with dusky spots.
Falco communis. *F. rostro cærulescente, cera, iridibus pedibusque luteis, corpore fusco, pennarum margine rufo, rectricibus fasciis saturatioribus. Lath. ind. orn.*
Falco communis. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Common Falcon. *Lath. syn.*
Le Faucon. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 470. 421. 469.

THE standard or representative of the Common Falcon is described as of the size of a middling Hen, and of the length of eighteen inches: the general colour brown, the feathers having rufous edges, and the tail transversly banded with lighter and darker brown: the bill blueish, with a yellow cere, and on each cheek a large brown patch or spot, which is said often to remain through all the varieties: the legs yellow* and strong, and the thighs, as in most other birds of this tribe, well clothed with lengthened feathers.

It is well known that the birds of the genus Falco vary more than most others in respect to size and plumage, according to their age and sex.

The Common Falcon appears to admit of nu-

* Buffon affirms that the feet and cere are greenish, and that those birds which have them yellow are considered by the Falconers as of a very inferior kind.

merous varieties, and these, having often been described as distinct species, have caused much confusion in ornithological works.

The Falcon is a native of the temperate and colder parts of Europe, frequenting rocky, mountainous, and wooded regions, and preying on various birds as well as on the smaller quadrupeds; generally darting perpendicularly downwards with great violence on its victim. It builds in the hollows of rocks exposed to the South; usually laying its eggs about the close of winter, or very early in the spring: these are often four in number, and are white, spotted with brown. So rapid is said to be the growth of the young, that in the space of three months they equal the parents in size.

The Varieties of this species are thus summed up by Monsieur Daudin, in his work entitled *Traité elementaire et complet d'Ornithologie.*

1. *White-Headed Falcon.* With the head, neck, and breast white, with small brown spots.

2. *White Falcon.* Entirely white, except a few indistinct yellowish spots.

3. *Black Falcon.* Upper part of head and back blackish-brown; under parts of the bird reddish-brown, with a black spot at the tip of each feather: wings and tail blackish-brown, crossed beneath with paler bars: legs deep lead-colour.

4. *Spotted Falcon.* Wings spotted with white; under parts white, spotted with brown: bill lead-colour; legs yellow.

5. *Brown Falcon.* Body brown, with deeper spots above, and white with brown spots beneath, those on the breast lanceolate.

6. *Reddish Falcon.* Differs from the Common Falcon in having black and reddish spots.

7. *Red Indian Falcon.* Cinereous-brown above; wing-coverts and under parts reddish-fulvous: tail marked with semicircular black and ash-coloured bars.

8. *Italian Falcon.* Head and neck tawny, with ferruginous lines or streaks: breast brown, with ferruginous specks: end of the wings marked with round white spots: legs yellow.

9. *Sacre Falcon.* This, which Buffon conceives to be a variety of the Lanner, Monsieur Daudin, with Monsieur Brisson, considers as a variety of the Common Falcon. Length two feet: bill and cere blue: back, wing-coverts, and breast, spotted with brown: tail marked with crescent-shaped spots: legs blue. To this, as a farther variety, should be added the *American Sacre* of Mr. Pennant, measuring twenty-two inches in length, and three feet in breadth: irides yellow: head whitish, with longitudinal brown streaks: bill and

cere blue: throat white spotted with brown: parts above brown, the feathers spotted and edged with ferruginous; the spots not touching the shafts: beneath white, with longitudinal dark-brown spots: quill-feathers black-brown; margins and ends of the prime oris white, transversly spotted within with pale ferruginous: smaller quill-feathers marked with round spots on the outside. Inhabits the northern parts of America, and is called at Hudson's Bay by the name of *Speckled Partridge-Hawk.*

10. *Spotted Falcon.* This, which is described and figured in the British Zoology, is of the size of a Buzzard, with a black bill, and yellow cere and legs: irides pale yellow: crown and hind part of the neck white, spotted with light reddish brown: back and scapulars of the same colour, edged with white: quill-feathers dusky, edged with ash-colour: under side of the neck, breast, belly, and thighs, white; the first, as well as the beginning of the breast, marked with a few rusty spots: rump white: middle tail-feathers marked by pretty numerous bars of white and deep brown; the rest with a lighter and darker brown: legs very strong. Two of these birds were shot near Longnor in Shropshire.

PEREGRINE FALCON.

Falco Peregrinus. *F. supra plumbeus fusco fasciatus, subtus albo-flavescens striis maculisque fuscis.*

Lead-coloured Falcon, with brown bars; beneath yellowish white, with brown streaks and spots.

Falco peregrinus. *F. cera pedibusque luteis, corpore nigricante transversim striato, supra cærulescente, subtus albido, rectricibus fasciatis apicibus albidis. Lath. ind. orn.* Peregrine Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

Falco barbarus. *F. cera pedibusque luteis, corpore cærulescente fuscoque maculato, pectore immaculato, cauda fasciata. Lin. Syst. Nat. Lath. ind. orn.*

Peregrine Falcon. *Penn. Br. Zool. pl.* 20, *and* Blue-Backed Falcon. *edit. fol. pl.* A 5.

The Peregrine Falcon, originally so named, either from its supposed extra-European origin, or from its migratory nature, is found in various parts both of the European and Asiatic world. Its size is that of the Common Falcon, or rather, according to Mr. Pennant, of the Moor Buzzard. In its full growth and plumage it is a very elegant bird, and of a strong and bold habit. The general colour on the upper parts is a deep blueish lead-colour, barred with black, but the crown of the head and upper part of the neck nearly black: the greater wing-feathers dusky, barred with oval white spots, and the tail of similar colour with the back: on each cheek, beneath the eyes, is usually a patch of black, pointing downwards: the under parts, from the chin to the bottom of the breast, are yellowish white, with a blackish-brown streak down

the shaft of each feather, and the remainder, together with the thigh-feathers, white, elegantly barred with blackish brown: the bill is blue, with yellow cere; the legs short and yellow, and the toes long.

The Peregrine Falcon appears to be a general inhabitant of Europe and Asia. In our own island it is said to breed on the rocks of *Llandidno* in *Caernarvonshire;* and that promontory, according to Mr. Pennant, has long been celebrated for producing a generous kind, as appears from a letter extant in the *Gloddaeth* library, from the Lord Treasurer Burleigh to an ancestor of Sir Roger Mostyn, in which his Lordship thanks him for a present of a fine cast of Hawks taken on those rocks, which belong to the family. This species is also common in the north of Scotland. It appears however to have been frequently confounded with the common Falcon by the older writers, and very little dependance can be placed on the general descriptions given in such works; more especially as both this bird and the common Falcon are known to vary so much in their colours according to age, sex, and other circumstances.

Var.

BARBARY FALCON.

The Barbary Falcon, described by some as distinct from the Peregrine, appears, from every investigation that can be made on the subject, to be the self-

same species with the preceding; and indeed it is difficult to consider it as even deserving the title of a striking variety: the only pretended difference consisting in the cast of colour, which inclines more or less to blue on the upper parts.

Var.?

LANNER.

This is a kind of Falcon described by Belon as common at that time in France, though, according to Buffon, it is now become extinct, or at least unknown. It was said to build on tall forest-trees, and on elevated rocks, and to be easily distinguished by its blue bill and feet, by the feathers on the front being mottled with black and white, the spots being transverse, and not longitudinal as in other Falcons; and that when the wings were spread, they appeared different on their under surface from those of other Falcons, exhibiting scattered round spots, like pieces of coin. (deniers) The neck and bill were said to be short and thick, and the male and female to resemble each other in plumage, the female being called *Lanner*, and the male *Lanneret*.

The *Falco Lanarius* of Linnæus is characterized in the *Systema Naturæ* by having the bill blue with a yellow cere, the legs blue, and the body marked beneath with longitudinal black spots. He adds that it has a white band along the front, over the eyes; that the legs are short, and that it is of a

migratory nature. In the *Fauna Suecica* he describes it with ferruginous back and wings; the head, and whole body beneath, cinereous-white, with black longitudinal spots: tail long, and marked with opposite white spots; legs feathered beyond their middles; feet and bill blue; and observes that it is a species very distinct from the Italian Lanner.

Mr. Pennant, in the British Zoology, describes and figures a bird communicated to him by the name of Lanner, and taken in a decoy in Lincolnshire. It was less than a Buzzard, the cere of a pale greenish blue: the legs short and strong, and of a blueish cast: the plumage on the upper parts deep-brown, the edges of the feathers paler, those on the head being brown and clay-colour: over each eye was a white streak, and beneath each a black mark, pointing downwards: the throat white, the breast tinged with dull yellow, and marked with longitudinal brown spots, the thighs and vent being marked in a similar manner: the quill-feathers dusky, the inner webs marked with oval rust-coloured spots, and the tail spotted in the same manner.

After all these descriptions, one would be inclined to suppose this bird entitled to the rank it has hitherto maintained in ornithological writings. I am informed however, on seemingly good authority, that the Lanner, so often considered as a distinct species both by Falconers and Naturalists, is in reality no other than the Peregrine Falcon in its first or second year, and before it has arrived at its full and genuine plumage. It is for this

reason that I have ventured to assign it the place it occupies in the present work; though at the same time, I must beg to be understood as being by no means perfectly convinced of the truth of this supposition. The chief objection seems to be the colour of the feet, which are blue, not yellow as in the Peregrine. Some have supposed both the *Lanner* and the *Sacre* to be varieties of the *Jerfalcon*.

The Jerfalcon, the Gentil Falcon, the Common Falcon, the Peregrine, and the Goshawk were the principal species used in the diversion of Falconry, now so much in its decline, having been, in most parts of Europe, superseded by the readier and more certain services of the gun.

"The art of Falconry, says the learned Sir Thomas Browne, appears to have been either unknown, or so little advanced among the ancient Greeks and Romans, that it seems to have proceeded no higher than the daring of birds; which makes so little thereof to be found in Aristotle, who only mentions some rude practice thereof in Thracia; as also in Ælian, who speaks of Hawks and Crows among the Indians; little or nothing of true Falconry being mentioned before Julius Firmicus, in the days of Constantius, son to Constantine the great. If the Romans, says the learned Rigaltius, had well understood this airy chace, they would have left, or less regarded their Circensian recreations."

In the European world the Germans and the French seem to have been the first who devoted

themselves to the science of Falconry. The technical terms in English Falconry are evidently of French extraction.

"In our own country, says Mr. Pennant, I cannot trace the certainty of Falconry till the reign of King Ethelbert the Saxon monarch, in the year 760, when he wrote to Germany for a brace of Falcons which would fly at cranes and bring them to the ground, as there were very few such in Kent. It seems highly probable that Falconry had its rise in Scythia, and passed from thence to the northern parts of Europe. Tartary is even at present celebrated for its fine breed of Falcons; and the sport is in such general esteem that, according to Olearius, *there was no hut but what had its Eagle or Falcon.* The boundless plains of that country are as finely adapted to the diversion as the wooded or mountainous nature of most part of Europe is ill calculated for that rapid amusement."

In England Falconry seems to have continued in full glory till about the time of the Usurpation, after which it appears gradually to have declined. With what ardor it was pursued in the reign of James the first may be gathered from the anecdote recorded by Mr. Pennant, who relates that Sir James Monson gave no less a sum than a thousand pounds for a cast of Hawks.

It should be observed, that almost every kind of Falco, from the largest to the smallest, may be trained to Falconry; even Eagles themselves have been used for the chace of the Roebuck, the

Antelope, the Wolf, Fox, &c. The larger kind of Falcons, as the Jerfalcon, the Peregrine, and the Goshawk were used for the flight after the Heron, the Wildgoose, the Crane, the Hare, &c. the Common Falcon principally for the more general run of game; while the smaller kind were often instructed to fly at the Partridge and the Quail. The Iceland Falcon is, according to Mr. Pennant, in the highest esteem, and will last ten* or twelve years, whereas those of Norway and other countries are seldom fit for the sports of the field after two or three years use.

The feats performed by the Jerfalcon are indeed to be numbered among the noblest in the practice of Falconry. Scaliger attests, that he saw one which belonged to Henry, King of Navarre, strike down a Buzzard, two Wildgeese, divers Kites, a Crane, and a Swan.

Among the best of Hawks for Falconry is also the Goshawk: these were used by the Emperor of China in his sporting progresses attended by his Grand Falconer, and a thousand subordinate. The Emperor often carried a Hawk on his hand, to let fly at any game which might present itself, and which were usually Pheasants, Partridges, Cranes, or Quails. This diversion was witnessed by Marco Polo in the year 1269.

The flight of a strong Falcon is wonderfully swift. It is recorded, that a Falcon belonging to

* Some writers speak of Falcons continuing in full vigour for twenty years.

a Duke of Cleve flew out of Westphalia into Prussia in one day; and in the county of Norfolk a Hawk has made a flight at a Woodcock near thirty miles in an hour.

A very agreeable general description of Falconry is given by the ingenious Abbe La Pluche. This sport, says he, is one of the noblest, and frequently proves one of the most profitable of pleasures. Mankind have discovered the secret of making even the voracious qualities of birds advantageous, either by employing them against malignant and noxious species, or against those whose flesh affords the most exquisite relish. For the various kinds of this diversion the Falcon, the Gerfalcon, the Lanner, the Saker, the Goshawk, the Merlin, and the Sparrow-Hawk are used; but in general the Falcon and Hawk are in more frequent use than the rest. The Falcon, Gerfalcon, and Goshawk are in extraordinary repute, and are trained up to various flights, some of which are pointed against the Heron, others against the Kite, the Curlew, or the Owl. But these pleasures are expensive, and fit only for Princes. The Hawk is used in low flights: he is sagacious, and very dextrous in attacking the Partridge, and is sure to furnish the larder with excellent game. A prudent gentleman leaves the Falcon to Princes, and contents himself with the Hawk. The manner of training them up, and employing them in the field is very agreeable. Such as are taken in the nest are called *Nias*, while such as are taken when full-grown, and at full liberty, are called *Haggards* or old birds. These

last are tamed with much more difficulty, but patience and dexterity at length succeed, and, in terms of Falconry, make them fit for the Fray. When they are too wild, they are neither fed, nor suffered to sleep for three or four days and nights, and are never left alone; by which means they gradually become familiarized to the Falconer, and are obedient to all his commands*. His principal care is to accustom them to settle on his fist; to spring when he throws them off; to know his voice, his singing, his whistle, or any other signal he gives them; and to return to order on his fist. At first they are tied with a string of about thirty fathoms in length, to prevent them from flying away; and they are not freed from this till they are completely disciplined, and return at the proper call or signal. To accomplish this the bird must be lured. The lure is a piece of red stuff or wool, on which are fixed a bill, talons, and wings. To this is likewise fastened a piece of that flesh on which the bird feeds, and the lure is thrown out to him when they intend to reclaim or recall him. The sight of the food he loves, with the addition of a certain noise, immediately brings him back. In a little time the voice alone is sufficient. The various plumage with which the lure is set off is called a Drawer. When they accustom the Hawk to fly at a Kite, a Heron, or a Partridge, they

* A method has been sometimes practised of placing an unquiet Hawk in a smith's shop for a certain time; where, by the continual noise of the hammering, he has become gentle and tractable.

change the drawer according to the kind of game to which he is to be devoted. When he is to spring at a Kite, they fix the bill and feathers of that bird to the lure; and the same care is taken with respect to the rest; and in order to entice the bird to his object, they fasten beneath the drawer or plumage the flesh of a chicken or some other fowl, and sometimes season it with sugar and spices, adding marrow and other delicacies. By these means, when he is afterwards to spring at real game, he flies at it with surprising precipitation. After three weeks or a month's exercise in a chamber or garden, they begin to make the experiment with the bird in the open fields, and fasten little bells to his feet, in order to be readily informed of his motions. He is always capped or hooded, to prevent him from seeing any object but his game; and as soon as the dogs either stop or spring it, the Falconer unhoods the bird, and tosses him into the air after his prey. It is then extremely diverting to see him wing the air in all the varieties of his flight, and behold him soaring by degrees, and repeated springs, till the eye loses him in the middle region. He then commands the plain, contemplates the motions of his prey, whom the distance of the enemy deludes into an imaginary security, till at last he launches upon it with the rapidity of an arrow, and bears it to his master, who recalls him. They never fail, in these his first essays, to present him with the neck and entrails of the prey he has brought. These gratuities, and the other caresses of the Falconer,

animate the bird to the performance of his duty; keep him in regularity, and a proper fierceness of temper, and particularly, prevent him from *bearing away his bells;* that is, from flying off, and not returning; an accident which sometimes happens.

When Falcons are taught to fly at Rabbets, Hares, &c. it is called *flying at the fur;* and some are instructed to fly both at the fur and the plume, or to the pursuit of hares and rabbets, as well as of pheasants and partridges, &c. In order to this, when the Falcon is very tame, they either take a live hare, and break one of its legs, or else a hare's skin stuffed with straw; and having fixed to it a piece of chicken's flesh, or whatever food the Falcon loves best, they tie this skin, with a cord of great length, to the girth of a horse, and as the skin is thus dragged along, the bird imagines it to be a hare in flight, and is allured to dart upon it; and is thus taught to distinguish the animal. But Falcons of the larger kind have been occasionally taught to fly at the Roebuck, and even at the Wild Boar, and the Wolf. The method of instructing them in this species of adventure is by accustoming them to feed, when young, from out of the sockets of the eyes of a wolf's or boar's head; the whole skin of the animal being stuffed, in such a manner as to appear alive. While the bird is feeding, the Falconer begins to move the figure gradually; in consequence of which the bird learns to fasten itself as to stand firm, notwithstanding the precipitate motions which are gradually given

to the stuffed animal. He would lose his meal, should he quit his hold; which makes him careful to fix well on the skull, that he may dig his bill into the eye-socket, in spite of the motion. When these first exercises are over, the skin is placed on a cart, drawn by a horse at full speed: the bird follows it, and is particularly feeding: and thus, when they come to fly him in the field, he never fails to dart on the head of the first beast of the kind he discovers, and begins to scoop out the eyes. This throws the animal into such distress, that the hunters have time to approach, and dispatch it with their spears.

It has been before observed, that Falcons taken from the nest are with most ease and certainty instructed in the various documents necessary for them to attend to when brought into the field; but the discovery of a nest of these birds is merely a fortunate accident, which cannot often be expected. It is therefore necessary to find some method of obtaining the wild and full-grown bird, which is then to undergo the troublesome process of education. For this purpose various arts have been devised. Like all other birds, Falcons may be taken by means of nets, such as are used in catching larks; but the difficulty is to attract the bird. If a Falcon is engaged in the pursuit of his prey in the air, he will not quit it and descend to seize an immoveable and apparently lifeless bait lying on the ground. It is therefore necessary to use a greater degree of art. The experienced Falconer places and fixes in the centre of his net a pulley,

or a strong iron wire bent into a ring, through which he passes a string of thirty or forty fathoms length, and at the extremity ties by its legs a live pigeon, which he carries with him into his hut or cover; and as the Falcon sometimes flies so high as not to be seen, the Falconer is informed of his motions by means of a Butcher-Bird, which is fastened by a string tied to a stick fixed near the net. This bird by its movements indicates the kind of Hawk which is hovering above. If it be a Buzzard or any kind of sluggish Hawk, the Butcher-Bird's motions are but slight; but if it suddenly flies down and hides itself, it is a sign that some large kind of Falcon is above. In consequence of this, the Falconer lets out the pigeon, whose apparent state of liberty attracts the sight of the Falcon. If it approach readily, the man withdraws the pigeon, and, a moment or two afterwards, lets it out again. This second appearance of the pigeon never fails to incite the Falcon, which darts upon it as his prey, and is in consequence caught in the net, which the man instantly draws over it.

The above method of taking Falcons, and indeed the art of Falconry in general, seems to have been held in no very high estimation by Linnæus, since, by way of note to his specific Character of Falco Gentilis, he adds "*Ars capiendi Falcones Columba et Lanio, instituendi, venandi Gazellas, Ardeas, Aviculas, &c. propriis artificibus commissa, in luxuriam magnatum, ridenda etiam a stulto.*"

A singularly elegant species of Falconry is said

to be occasionally practised in Persia*; viz. training small birds (*sparrows*) to the pursuit of the larger kind of Butterflies. This we may suppose to be peculiarly calculated for the amusement of the ladies.

Spallanzani, in his Sicilian Travels, informs us that, during his residence at *Scandiano*, he amused himself with breeding up three young Falcons. They were so well tamed, that, after straying about for the whole day among the neighbouring hills and plains, they punctually returned every evening to the house of their benefactor, in which they had been bred: they regularly demanded their food, and then went to roost on a tall oak which grew near. Early every morning they waked him by their cries, and by beating against the window; never departing till they had been fed. Many of Spallanzani's friends and acquaintance, and even strangers, came to visit him on purpose to witness this interesting scene; and undoubtedly, as he observes, notwithstanding what we know of the art of Falconry, it was a truly curious thing to see these three birds, which were in a state of perfect liberty, and in full enjoyment of the empire of the air, descend, at the voice of their master, from heights at which they could scarcely be seen, perch on his hand, and receive his caresses, without being in the least intimidated by the crowd of spectators. Yet this confidence, perfect as it was, did not last any long time; and there can be no

* Sir Antony Sherlie's Relations.

doubt that their constant morning and evening visits proceeded merely from the powerful necessity of satisfying their physical demands of food, and their ignorance of the means which nature had given them of providing it for themselves. Whether it was that they had received this instruction from a fourth Falcon, which joined their company for some days, or whether the time was arrived in which their natural instinct began to develope itself and render them industrious, they no longer appeared at the windows, even when earnestly called. They still however retained so much of their early attachments as to come and roost on their accustomed oak; but, after a certain time, even this faint appearance of familiarity was gradually lost, and they betook themselves to the natural habits of their wild kindred. So true is it, adds Spallanzani, that among the inferior animals, Nature never loses her ancient rights!

The above Falcons were about the size of a Biset Pigeon, but with much longer wings, which, when the bird was sitting, passed beneath and crossed the tip of the tail. They delighted in flying to a vast height, and remaining, like kites, for hours together, in the airy space; flying against the wind. Spallanzani does not pretend to determine their true species, but gives the following descriptive character. *Falco cera rostroque cærulescentibus, pedibus nudis flavis, collari flavo-cinereo maculis duabus nigris, corpore supra fusco, rectricibus supra ferrugineis apice flavo pallidis.* To this he adds the following more detailed description, viz. The

head was brown, spotted with yellow: the neck encircled with a yellow-cinereous ring, interrupted by two longitudinal black spots: the beak and cere blue: the eyes bright and black; the border of the upper eyelids yellowish; the upper part of the body brown; the under yellow with lengthened black spots: the rump pale rufous; the thighs varied with black and yellow; the quill-feathers of the wings black, with transverse yellowish-rufous bands: the tail-feathers twelve in number, brown above, and of a yellowish white beneath: the feet naked and yellow, and the claws black.

CHANTING FALCON.

Falco musicus. *F. canus, subtus fusco undulatus, remigibus nigris, cauda cuneata fusca albo fasciata.*
Grey Falcon with brown undulations beneath, black wing-feathers, and brown cuneated tail barred with white.
Le Faucon Chanteur. *Levaill. av. afr. p.* 117. *No.* 27.
Falco musicus. *Daudin orn. p.* 116.

Among the ferocious Falcon tribe we could hardly expect to meet with a songster; the voice of the general race of birds of prey being peculiarly harsh and disagreeable. From the title however by which the celebrated Monsieur Levaillant has distinguished the present species, we might be led to suppose that a Falcon existed which to great elegance of plumage united a musical voice; since it sings, according to this author, for hours together, while perched on the summit of a tree, near

the nest of its faithful mate, which it never quits throughout the whole year; and, like the nightingale of Europe, is heard during the early dawn of day, or in the dusk of the evening, and not unfrequently during the greatest part of the night. Monsieur Sonnini however very properly observes that by this description we must not suppose its song to resemble that of the nightingale; Monsieur Levaillant meaning only, that the bird, like the nightingale, exerts its voice during the silence of the night; and that its incessantly repeated cries may be considered as in some degree clearer or more musical than those of its raucous and shrieking congeners. The size of this species is that of a common Falcon, and its colour a pearly grey, deeper or more inclining to brown on the top of the head and back: the under parts are crossed or undulated by numerous blueish-brown lines or bars: the larger wing-feathers are black, and the tail, which is strongly cuneated, is of a dusky colour, crossed, except on the two middle feathers, by several broad white bars: the bill is black with an orange-coloured cere; the legs orange-coloured, and longer than in most of the Falcon tribe. The female is a third larger than the male. This species commits great havoc among the smaller kind of game, as partridges, quails, &c. It even attacks hares, and will feed, like the Buzzard, on moles, rats, &c. It is an inhabitant of the interior of Caffraria, where it builds in woods, laying four white round eggs.

ROUGH-LEGGED FALCON.

Falco Lagopus. *F. albus fusco varius, pedibus pennatis, cauda versus apicem fascia lata fusca.*
White Falcon varied with brown, with feathered legs, and a broad brown bar towards the end of the tail.
Rough-Legged Falcon. *Penn. Brit. Zool. append. pl.* 1.
Falco Lagopus. *Brunn. orn. bor. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel. Var.*
Dusky Falcon. *Penn. Arct. Zool.*

Length two feet two inches. First described, and figured, in the appendix to the Quarto edition of Mr. Pennant's British Zoology: head, neck, and breast yellowish white, with oblong brown strokes: belly deep brown: wing-coverts brown, with ferruginous edges: ends of the larger wing-feathers deep brown, their lower parts white: thighs and legs pale yellow with brown streaks: tail as in the specific character: legs feathered to the toes, which are yellow. Native of Denmark and Norway; but the accidental straggler from which Mr. Pennant's description was drawn up, shot in England. Like most of the present genus, it appears to vary, being sometimes seen with the back of a blueish grey, with black and white variegations, and the tail dusky with paler bars. Hence the *Dusky Falcon* of the Arctic Zoology.

BOOTED FALCON.

Falco pennatus. *F. cera pedibusque pennatis luteis, corpore nigricante griseo vario, subtus luteo-fusco, capite pallido, superciliis nigris. Lath. ind. orn.*

Falcon with the cere and feathered legs yellow, the body above blackish varied with grey, beneath luteous-brown, the head pale, with a black superciliary streak on each side.

Falco pennatus. *Briss. append. Lin. Gmel. Lath. ind. orn.*

Described by Brisson. Size of a Jerfalcon: length one foot seven inches and a quarter: cere and toes yellow: parts above blackish brown with a cast of violet, and variegated with dull grey: beneath yellow-brown, with longitudinal blackish lines: head and upper part of the neck fulvous-grey with similar lines: over the eyes a black stripe: tail brown, growing blackish towards the tip, which is grey, marked with whitish spots on each side: legs feathered to the toes. Described from a preserved specimen. Native region unknown.

NEWFOUNDLAND FALCON.

Falco Novæ-Terræ. *F. cera pedibusque semilanatis flavis, corpore supra fusco, occipite subtusque ferrugineo, abdomine fusco-nebuloso, cauda fusca fasciis quatuor saturatioribus. Lath. ind. orn.*

Brown Falcon, with the nape and under parts ferruginous, the abdomen clouded with dusky; the tail brown with four darker bands; the cere and semi-feathered legs yellow.

Newfoundland Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

DESCRIBED by Mr. Latham from a drawing in the collection of Sir Joseph Banks: length twenty inches: cheeks inclining to ash-colour: thighs mottled with ash-colour and round dark spots: belly ferruginous, with dark blotches. Native of Newfoundland.

CRESTED INDIAN FALCON.

Falco cirrhatus. *F. cera pedibusque pennatis luteis, crista occipitis bifida pendula, corpore supra nigro, subtus albo nigroque striato. Lath. ind. orn.*

Falcon with body black above, beneath white streaked with black, pendulous occipital crest, cere and semi-pennated legs luteous.

Falco indicus cirrhatus. *Raii. syn.*

Crested Indian Falcon. *Will. orn. Lath. syn.*

DESCRIBED by Willughby from the living bird in the Royal Aviary in St. James's park. "This bird, says Willughby, was brought out of the

East Indies. For bigness it was not much inferior to a Goshawk: the head flat, black, copped, the crest hanging down backwards from the hind part of the head like a Lapwing's, but forked: the neck red: the breast and belly were parti-coloured of black and white, the alternate cross lines being very bright and fair: the irides of the eyes yellow: the beak of a deep or dark blue, almost black, especially towards the point; for the base was covered with a yellow membrane: the legs feathered down to the feet: the feet yellow: the talons of a dark black: the lesser rows of wing-feathers had whitish edges: the train was varied with transverse spaces or beds of black and cinereous alternately: the rest of the feathers were black."

Mr. Latham in his Supplement mentions his having seen a drawing of this species, which varied in having a broad black bar across the breast.

On turning to the description of the Crowned Eagle (Falco coronatus) the reader will perceive many points of affinity between that bird and the present species. The Crowned Eagle is however a native of Africa.

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Heath. sculp.

CRESTED AFRICAN FALCON

1808 Sept.r 1 London Publish'd by G. Kearsley; Fleet Street.

CRESTED WHITE FALCON.

Falco niveus. *F. niveus, crista bipenni pendente.*
Snow-White Falcon, with two-feathered pendent crest.
Falco Ceylanensis. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Ceylonese Crested Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

A DRAWING of this bird, but without any mention of the size, was communicated to Mr. Pennant. Said to be a native of Ceylon.

CRESTED AFRICAN FALCON.

Falco galericulatus. *F. cristatus plumbeus, cauda fusco fasciata, subtus albo-flavescens lateribus fasciatis, mandibula inferiore truncato-dentata.*
Lead-coloured crested Falcon, with brown bands on the tail; beneath yellowish-white with banded sides, the lower mandible truncato-denticulate.
Le Faucon Huppé. *Levaill. Ois. Afr. pl.* 28.

GENERAL habit that of the Peregrine Falcon, and a similar black patch beneath each cheek: size of the male that of a common pigeon: the female a fourth larger: irides orange: legs yellow: inhabits the sea shores and borders of lakes in Africa, feeding on fish, crabs, and shell-fish: builds either on rocks or trees, and lays four rufous eggs.

HARPY FALCON.

Falco rufus. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore rufo maculis longitudinalibus vario, dorso fusco, remigibus secondariis caudaque cinereis.*
Rufous Falcon with longitudinal dusky streaks, brown back, ash-coloured secondaries and tail, and yellow legs.
Falco rufus. *Lath. ind. orn.* Harpy Buzzard. *Lath. syn.*
La Harpaye. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 217. *Pl. Enl.* 460.

Size of a female Goshawk. Native of France and Germany, frequenting low places, rivers, and ponds, and often preying on fish. In habit or general appearance it seems considerably allied to the Ring-tail, but is of larger size.

ST. JOHN'S FALCON.

Falco S. Johannis. *F. fuscus, supra griseo nigroque varius, cauda albido nigroque fasciata.*
Brown Falcon, varied above with black and grey, the tail with black and whitish bars.
Falco Sancti Johannis. *Lin. Gmel. Lath. ind. orn.*
St. John's Falcon. *Penn. Arct. Zool.*

Length one foot nine inches: bill short and dusky: legs covered with feathers to the toes, which are yellow, and very short. Native of Hudson's Bay and Newfoundland.

LEVERIAN FALCON.

Falco Leverianus. *F. supra fuscus albo maculatus, capite albo tænia utrinque fusca, subtus albus cauda albo fasciata.*
Falcon with the body brown above spotted with white, the head white with a brown stripe on each side; the under parts white, and the tail barred with white.
Falco Leverianus. *Lath. ind. orn.* Leverian Falcon. *Lath. syn. suppl.*
Leverian Falcon. *Penn. Arct. Zool.*

Described by Mr. Pennant. Size of a Buzzard: bill dusky, and greatly hooked: head striped with brown and white: upper part of the body and wings deep brown; each feather elegantly marked at the end with a large white spot: the whole under side of the body white: the outmost feathers of the tail marked with nine white, and the same number of dusky bars: middle feathers with dusky and cinereous: the wings extend beyond the end of the tail: legs strong and yellow. Native of Carolina, from whence it was sent to Sir Ashton Lever.

PLAIN FALCON.

Falco obsoletus. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore fusco, subtus remigibus rectricibusque latere interiore albo maculatis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Brown Falcon, with yellow legs, the under parts of the body and insides of the wing and tail-feathers spotted with white.

Plain Falcon. *Penn. Arct. Zool. Lath. syn. suppl.*

Described by Mr. Pennant. Bill black; head dusky: nape spotted with white: back, coverts of the wings, and tail uniform deep brown: under side of the neck, breast, and belly deep brown, slightly spotted with white: primaries dusky: inner webs marked with great oval spots of white, mottled with brown: middle feathers of the tail plain brown; inner webs of the rest mottled with white; exterior webs and ends slightly edged with the same: legs strong; yellow? wing reaches near the length of the tail. Length from bill to tail-end two feet one inch. Native of Hudson's Bav.

WINTER FALCON.

Falco hyemalis. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, subtus albus fusco maculatus, cauda ferrugineo nigroque fasciata.*
Brown-ferruginous Falcon, beneath white with brown spots; the tail with black and ferruginous bars.
Falco hyemalis. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Winter Falcon. *Penn. Arct. Zool.*
Northern Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

Described by Mr. Pennant. Bill black, cere yellow: head deep brown; back the same, tinged with rust: hind part of the neck streaked with white: the coverts of the wings dusky, edged with dull white; those on the ridge with orange: ends of the primaries dusky; the other parts barred with brown and white: breast and belly white, marked with heart-shaped spots: thighs sulphur-coloured, speckled with dusky: vent feathers white: tip of the tail white; then succeeds a broad dusky bar; the remaining part barred with brown, tawny, and black: legs long, and very slender. This species is of an elegant form, and is about the size of the Ringtail. It inhabits the province of *New York*, appearing at the approach of winter, and retiring in the spring. Mr. Pennant observes that the *Northern Falcon* of Mr. Latham seems to differ from this only in age or sex. It is of a dark cinereous brown above, and beneath ferruginous brown, with interrupted white bars: the tail marked by four brown bars, and tipped with white.

BLACK AND WHITE FALCON.

Falco melanoleucos. *F. albus, capite collo dorso remigibusque nigris.*
White Falcon, with black head, neck, back, and quill-feathers.
Falco melanoleucos. *Penn. Ind. Zool.*
Black and White Indian Falcon. *Lath. syn.*
Le Tchoug. *Levaill. Ois. Afr. pl.* 32.

Described by Mr. Pennant in his Indian Zoology. Its length is sixteen inches, and its weight about ten ounces: the bill is black; the irides reddish yellow; the head, neck, back, scapulars, quill-feathers, and some of the middle coverts black; the remainder of the bird pure white. Native of Ceylon, where it is called *Kaloe Koeroelgoya*. The *Tchoug* of Levaillant is probably the same bird in a younger state.

STELLATED FALCON.

Falco stellatus. *F. superne nigricans, maculis stellas referentibus respersus, inferne ex albo & nigro varius, pedibus cæruleis. Briss. orn.*
Falcon of a blackish colour above, with star-like spots, beneath varied with black and white, with blue feet.
Falco stellaris. *Briss.* Falco cyanopus. *Gesn. & Aldr. Charlet. Exer. p.* 73.

This species, if any such exists, appears to be so very obscurely known that perhaps it ought not to be introduced into any systematic ornithological

work. It seems to have been first mentioned by Albertus Magnus, and from him recorded by Gesner and Aldrovandus, which latter author however makes no mention of the stellated spots particularized by Monsieur Brisson. In its general size and appearance it is said by Brisson to resemble the Peregrine Falcon, and to be blackish above, and starred with spots, but of what colour we are not informed: beneath black and white: the irides gold-coloured, and the legs blue.

SURINAM FALCON.

Falco Sufflator. *F. cera pedibusque luteis, corpore fusco albido, oculorum operculis osseis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Falcon with yellow cere and legs, body varied with brown and white, the eyes furnished with bony opercula.
Surinam Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

Linnæus seems to have described this bird from Rolander, one of his pupils, who travelled in South America. He informs us that the body is brown above, with the feathers white at their base; and beneath luteous, spotted with brown and white; that the nostrils are separated by an intervening fleshy lobe; and that, when alarmed, or angry, it inflates the head to the size of the body. The above description seems to want confirmation, and no bird properly answering to the Linnæan characters appears to be at present known. A bird however which Mr. Latham examined in a collec-

tion, and which he supposed might be the species intended by Linnæus, was about the size of a Hen-Harrier, and in colours not unlike that above-described. Mr. Latham very properly adds, that if by the expression of *oculorum operculis osseis* Linnæus meant the opake or white part of the eyes, the bony structure is by no means peculiar to the present species, but takes place in many others.

LAUGHING FALCON.

Falco cachinnans. *F. cera pedibusque luteis, palpebris albis, corpore fusco albidoque vario, annulo nigro verticem album cingente. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Falcon with yellow cere and legs, white eyelids, body variegated with brown and whitish; the top of the head black surrounded by a white ring.

NATIVE of South America: observed by Rolander: upper part of the body, wings, and tail-coverts brown: throat, breast, abdomen, and wings beneath, white: tail banded with black and luteous. When disturbed utters a laughing sound. This however is observed by Monsieur Sonnini to be no very distinctive character, since many of the Falcon tribe occasionally utter a shrill and quickly repeated cry, which by a little aggravation, might be termed a laugh.

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BACHA FALCON.

1808 Sept.r London Published by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

MARITIME FALCON.

Falco maritimus. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, corpore caudæque apice albo, cruribus colore ex rubicundo et albo misto. Lath. ind. orn.*

Falcon with yellow cere and legs, body and tip of the tail white, and legs of a mixed reddish and whitish colour.

NATIVE of Java, frequenting the sea coasts: length seventeen inches; breadth four feet: bill, as well as cere, yellow.

BACHA FALCON.

Falco Bacha. *F. nigricans, subtus humerisque albo maculatis, crista occipitali nigra albo fasciata, cauda fascia alba.*

Blackish Falcon, with the under parts and shoulders spotted with white, an occipital black crest banded with white, and a white bar across the tail.

Le Bacha. *Levaill. Ois. Afr. pl.* 15.

NATIVE of the interior of Africa, frequenting barren and rocky places, and preying chiefly on the *Cape Cavy* or *Klipdas** of the Dutch, which it watches with incessant assiduity, and springs upon it the instant it emerges from its retreat in the rock. It is a solitary species, except during the breeding season, and in size resembles the Buzzard,

* Hyrax Capensis or Cape Hyrax. *General Zoology. Vol.* 1. *p.* 217.

though of a somewhat more slender shape. It builds among rocks, forming its nest in a careless manner of moss and leaves.

FISHING FALCON.

Falco Piscator. *F. subcristatus, capite ferrugineo, corpore cinereo, pennis margine fuscis, subtus lutescente maculis longitudinalibus fuscis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Subcristated Falcon, with ferruginous head, cinereous body with the feathers brown on the edges, beneath subluteous with longitudinal brown spots.

Le Faucon Pêcheur de Senegal, ou Le Tanas. *Buff. ois.*

Fishing Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

NATIVE of Senegal, where it is known by the name of *Tanas*. Size rather less than that of the common Falcon: manners similar to those of the Osprey, feeding principally on fish.

PURPLE-THROATED FALCON.

Falco formosus. *F. nigro-cæruleus, gula purpurea, femoribus crissoque albo-purpurascentibus.*

Blackish-blue Falcon, with purple throat, and purplish white thighs and vent.

Falco cera orbitis pedibusque luteis, jugulo purpureo, corpore supra cærulescente-rubro, abdomine incarnato. Lath. ind. orn.

Falco aquilinus. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Red-Throated Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

Petit Aigle d'Amerique. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 142. *Pl. Enl.* 417.

NATIVE of South America: cere, orbits, and legs yellow: irides orange-coloured: length from sixteen to eighteen inches. First described by Buffon, who seems to have been unacquainted with any particulars relative to its habits or history.

NEW-ZEALAND FALCON.

Falco Novæ Zelandiæ. *F. ferrugineo-fuscus, subtus albido longitudinaliter striatus, rostro subcæruleo vulturino, colli pennis laxis.*

Ferruginous brown Falcon, beneath striated longitudinally with whitish; the beak blueish and vulturine, and the feathers of the neck loose.

New Zealand Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

MALE eighteen inches long: female twenty-three: cere and legs yellow: tail crossed by subluteous bands; and sometimes by whitish ones. Native of New Zealand.

CAYENNE FALCON.

Falco Cayanensis. *F. albido-cærulescens, alis caudaque plumbeis nigro fasciatis.*
Blueish-White Falcon, with the wings and tail lead-coloured barred with black.
Falco Cayanensis. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Cayenne Falcon. *Lath. syn.*
Petit Autour de Cayenne. *Buff. ois. 1. p. 237. Pl. Enl. 473.*

Described by the Count de Buffon, who however does not mention its exact size, but contents himself with calling it a small Cayenne Goshawk. From the figure referred to in the Planches Enluminées it appears to be of a stout habit, not ill resembling that of the Peregrine Falcon, and with blue or rather lead-coloured legs and feet. Native of Cayenne.

LONG-TAILED FALCON.

Falco macrourus. *F. rufo-cinereus, subtus albus, cauda longa fusco fasciata.*
Rufo-cinereous Falcon, white beneath, with long tail barred with brown.
Falco macrourus. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Accipiter macrourus. *Nov. Comm. Petrop. 15. p. 439.*
Long-Tailed Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

Length above eighteen inches: breadth nearly two feet: bill green at the base, and black at the

tip: cere and legs yellow: irides gold-coloured. Native of Russia.

BROWN'S HAWK.

Falco Brownii. *F. supra fuscus, subtus albus lunulis flavis, cauda grisea lineis quatuor fuscis.*
Brown Falcon, white beneath with yellow crescent-shaped spots, and grey tail with four linear brown bars.
Falco badius. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Brown Hawk. *Lath. syn.*

DESCRIBED and figured in Peter Brown's Illustrations of Zoology; length thirteen inches: bill blue; irides and legs yellow. Native of Ceylon.

AMERICAN BROWN HAWK.

Falco fuscus. *F. cinereo-fuscus, capite albo-striato, subtus albidus maculis longitudinalibus fuscis, cauda fusco fasciata.*
Cinereous-brown Hawk, with the head streaked with white, the under parts whitish with longitudinal brown spots, and the tail crossed with brown bars.
Falco fuscus. *Lin. Gmel. Lath. ind. orn.*
American Brown Hawk. *Lath. syn.* Falco fuscus.? *Mill. Ill. pl.* 18.

THE birds of this species in the Leverian Museum were of the size and shape of a Sparrow-Hawk, and of a cinereous brown above, with the head longitudinally streaked with white, and the under parts

white, marked on the breast and belly with brown streaks down the shaft of the feathers: the tail cinereous brown, crossed by three brown bars: the bill blueish; the legs slender and yellow. Native of North America.

VAR. ?

The figure referred to by Mr. Latham in Miller's Illustrations of Natural History, and which he supposes to be meant for the same species, differs so much in some particulars as to demand a separate description. It is of a deep subferruginous brown above, and dull cinereous beneath, with longitudinal black spots on the under parts and thighs: the quill-feathers are subferruginous, barred with black, and the tail ferruginous, crossed by six narrow black bars; the bill blueish; the legs deep yellow, and rather stout or short than slender.

HEN-HARRIER.

Mas. Falco cyaneus. *F. albo-cærulescens, collari subrigente albo fuscoque vario, remigibus fuscis.*

Whitish-grey Falcon, with a collar of stiffish brown and white feathers, and dusky quill-feathers.

Falco cyaneus. *F. cera alba, pedibus fulvis, corpore cæruleo-canescente, arcu superciliari albo gulam cingente. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Hen-Harrier. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*

Blue Hawk. *Edw. pl.* 225. Bohemian Falcon? *Lath. suppl.* 2.

Fem. Falco Pygargus. *F. fusco ferrugineoque varius, collari subrigente albo fuscoque vario, uropygio albo, remigibus fuscis.*

Brown Falcon, with ferruginous variegations, a collar of stiffish brown and white feathers, white rump, and dusky quill-feathers.

Falco Pygargus. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, corpore cinereo, abdomine pallido maculis oblongis rufis, oculorum orbita alba. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Ring-Tail. *Penn. Brit. Zool. Will. orn. Lath. &c.*

This bird, which is by no means uncommon in England, is principally seen in low grounds, heaths, marshes, &c. It preys on various kinds of smaller birds, as well as on frogs, lizards, &c. &c. It also forms its nest on the ground, among grass or rushes, and is not observed to settle, like many other hawks, on trees. The shape of the Hen-Harrier is elegant: the general length of the male bird is from sixteen to eighteen inches, and its colour a pale blueish-grey, the greater wing-feathers being dusky or blackish, and the side-feathers of the tail white, marked with dusky bars: the bill is blackish; the legs slender and yellow: the head, from behind

the eyes to the fore part of the neck, is encircled by a slight ruff or collar of stiffer feathers than the rest of the plumage.

The Female Hen-Harrier, commonly called the Ring-Tail, differs so strikingly in its plumage as to have been often considered as a distinct species, and has been described as such in the works of the most intelligent naturalists. Mr. Pennant imagined that the long-disputed point relative to the difference of species between the Hen-Harrier and the Ring-Tail had at length been determined by the criterion of dissection; a Ring-Tail having, on examination, turned out to be a male bird. It appears however, from the undeniable testimony of the most accurate observers and experienced sportsmen, that the above observation, though true in itself, is by no means conclusive. This, which appears at first to be highly paradoxical, is explained by observing that the male Hen-Harrier, during the first years of its life, is similar in plumage to the female, and does not begin to acquire its elegantly-pale colour till its age is considerably advanced. This circumstance, which seems now fully ascertained, renders it unnecessary to dwell farther on the subject than by giving a description of the female bird or Ring-Tail*. It usually measures from eighteen to twenty inches in length,

* Yet it is but just to add, that the conductor of the ingenious Mr. Bewick's highly elegant work on British Birds speaks of Hen-Harriers of both sexes having been observed, and, in consequence, supposes the Hen-Harrier and the Ring-Tail to be two distinct species.

and is of a ferruginous colour, with darker variegations; the middle of each feather being far darker than the edges, and the back deeper than other parts: the greater wing-feathers are dusky, the rump white, and the tail brown, with broad ferruginous bars, the tip being white: the under parts of the bird are generally of a yellowish or reddish cast, marked with longitudinal brown or blackish spots: round the neck is a ruff of stiff feathers, varied with brown and white: the irides, cere, and legs are yellow, as in the male bird.

VAR.

Falco Hudsonius. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, dorso fusco, superciliis albis, speculo alarum cærulescente. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Somewhat superior in size to the British Ring-tail, and of a rather darker or browner cast: over each eye a white streak: beneath whitish with ferruginous spots: thighs barred with that colour; shorter wing-feathers blueish grey, forming a kind of speculum on the wing: tail-feathers, except the two middle ones, whitish with ferruginous bars: bill blueish; cere and legs orange. Inhabits Hudson's Bay, flying and preying in a similar manner to the European Ring-Tail, and occasionally varying into a deep ferruginous colour.

VAR?

Marsh Hawk. *Edw. pl.* 291.

This, which occurs in North America and in the West-Indian islands, differs in being somewhat larger than the European kind, and in having a black streak across the eyes, above which is a white line descending below the cheeks and meeting in front of the neck: the rump is white; the bill blueish; the cere and legs orange: these latter however appear in Edward's figure to be rather short and stout than slender, as in the European Ringtail.

VAR.

Cayenne Ring-Tail. *Lath. syn.*

Another variety from climate. Native of South America: larger than the European Ringtail, and of a deep brown above with a cast of blueish grey on the wings: a yellowish streak over the eyes, and continued into the ruff or collar: under parts reddish buff-colour, each feather marked by a brown streak down the shaft: rump white: tail barred with deep and light brown: bill black; cere blue: legs yellow.

BLACK-THROATED FALCON.

Falco melanobronchos. *F. rufescens, nigro fasciatus, capite pallido nigro lineato, jugulo nigro.*
Rufescent Falcon, barred with black, the head pale with black streaks, and the throat black.
Falco nigricollis. *Lath. ind. orn.* Black-Necked Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

This bird was in the Leverian Museum, and was said to be a native of Cayenne. Its length was nearly two feet; its colour rufous transversly barred with black, the bars on the under parts being much narrower than on the upper: the head pale, with longitudinal black streaks: the throat and larger quill-feathers black; the bill dark brown, and the legs yellow.

PIED FALCON.

Falco picatus. *F. (albicollis.) pedibus flavis, capite collo dorso antice corporeque subtus albis, pennis interscapularibus maculis quadratis nigris, alis nigris albo maculatis. Lath. ind. orn.*
White Falcon, with yellow legs, interscapular-feathers marked with square black spots, and black quill-feathers spotted internally with white.

Mentioned by Mr. Latham in his Supplement under the title of *White-Necked Falcon.* Said to inhabit Cayenne. Length one foot ten inches.

ASIATIC FALCON.

Falco Asiaticus. *F. pedibus semilanatis flavis, corpore fusco subtus albo, pectore striato, rectricibus griseo-argentcis exteriore fasciis quinque obsoletis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Frown Falcon, with half-feathered legs, body white beneath, striped breast, and silver-grey tail, the outer feather marked by obscure bars.

LENGTH twenty-two inches. General colours of the body and wings nearly similar to those of the Buzzard: bill blueish-black; legs yellow. Native of China. Mentioned by Mr. Latham from the collection of Sir Joseph Banks.

JOHANNA FALCON.

Falco Johannensis. *F. pedibus luteis, corpore ferrugineo punctis linearibus nigris, gula lutescente, remigibus fusco-nigricantibus, cauda cuneiformi, tectricibus albis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Ferruginous Falcon, with linear black spots, subluteous throat, brownish black wing-feathers, cuneiform tail; white tail-coverts, and yellow legs.

MENTIONED by Mr. Latham from a manuscript in the possession of the late Dr. Fothergill. Said to inhabit India and the island of Johanna.

MADAGASCAR FALCON.

Falco Madagascariensis. *F. canus, supra nigro maculatus, subtus striatus, genis nudis, cauda nigra fascia media alba.*

Grey Falcon, above spotted, beneath barred with black, with naked cheeks, and black tail with a white middle bar.

L'Autour à ventre rayé de Madagascar. *Sonnerat. Voy. Ind. 2. pl.* 103.

Size of a common Pheasant: bill black; legs yellow: larger wing-feathers white half way, with oblique black bands; the tips black. Native of Madagascar, where it was observed by Sonnerat.

RHOMBEATED FALCON.

Falco rhombeatus. *F. supra griseus nigro fasciatus, capite nigro, subtus subferrugineus, maculis rhombeatis nigris, cauda, fasciis obliquis.*

Falcon with black head, upper parts grey barred with black, lower parts pale ferruginous with rhombic black spots, and tail crossed by oblique black bars.

Falco rhombeus. *F. pedibus flavicantibus, supra griseus subtus fuscus maculis rhombeis, rectricibus fasciis undecim obliquis nigris. Lath. ind. orn.* Rhomboidal Falcon. *Lath. suppl.*

Native of India, frequenting the borders of the Ganges: length nineteen inches.

THARU FALCON.

Falco Tharus. *F. albidus nigro maculatus, crista occipitali remigibus caudæque apice nigris.*
Whitish Falcon spotted with black; the occipital crest, wing-feathers, and tip of the tail black.
Tharu. *Mollina Hist. Nat. Chil.*

SIZE of a large fowl: bill whitish: legs yellow: female smaller than the male, and of a grey colour. This species, according to Molina, is common in Chili, feeding both on dead and living prey; which latter it is said to lie in wait for, and seize suddenly, not pursuing it, like others of the aquiline tribe. It builds in tall trees.

RUBIGINOUS FALCON.

Falco rubiginosus. *F. fuscus, subtus albescenti-luteus, macula pectorali lutea, rectricibus fasciis quatuor testaceis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Brown Falcon, whitish-luteous beneath, with luteous pectoral spot, and four testaceous bars.

NATIVE of Sclavonia. The bill is black, the legs yellow, and the head Isabella-coloured.

SCLAVONIAN FALCON.

Falco Sclavonicus. *F. cera lutea, pedibus, exceptis digitis, lanatis, corpore testaceo maculis nigris, capite & collo albidioribus. Kram. El. p.* 329.

Falcon with luteous cere, testaceous body with black spots, head and neck whitish, and legs feathered, except on the toes.

SIZE of a common Cock. Inhabits Sclavonia, and is perhaps no other than a variety of the preceding.

RANIVOROUS FALCON.

Falco ranivorus. *F. fuscus, subtus albido varius, femoribus crissoque rufo-ferrugineis. Lath. Suppl. Ind. Orn.*

Brown Falcon, beneath varied with whitish, with rufo-ferruginous thighs and vent.

Le Grenouillard. *Levaill. Ois. Afr.* 1. *pl.* 23.

NATIVE of the Cape of Good Hope: size of the Moor-Buzzard, to which it is much allied; builds among rushes, with the stalks of leaves of water-plants, and feeds principally on frogs, and on young water-fowl. A variety, still more resembling the Moor-Buzzard, has been also observed, and a third quite black with the rump white; but if this be supposed of the same species, it is evident that no dependance can be placed on the proposed specific character.

TESTACEOUS FALCON.

Falco testaceus. *F. testaceus subtus albus, abdomine rufescente, remigibus albo-maculatis cauda alba fasciis nigricantibus. Lath. Suppl. ind. orn.*

Testaceous Falcon, white beneath, with rufescent abdomen, wing-feathers spotted with white, and white tail with dusky bars.

Falco testaceus. *Daudin. orn. 2. pl. 125.*

Falco Javanicus? *F. cera nigra medio lutea, pedibus luteis, capite collo et pectore castaneis, dorso fusco. Lath. ind. orn.*

NATIVE of Java: size of a Goshawk: bill blueish, cere and legs yellow: vent white: bands of the tail five in number.

LONG-LEGGED FALCON.

Falco Acoli. *F. canus, subtus fusco transverse lineatus, cauda alba.*

Grey Falcon, with dusky linear bars beneath, and white tail.

L'Acoli. *Levaill. ois.*

VERY much allied to the Hen-Harrier, but with longer legs in proportion: bill blueish; cere orange; irides and legs yellow. Inhabits the Cape of Good Hope, where it is known by the name of *Witte-Valk* or White Falcon: builds in bushes, and the male and female are usually seen together.

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LONG LEGGED-FALCON.

1808 Sept.r 1. London Publishd by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

AXILLARY FALCON.

Falco axillaris. *F. cærulescens, subtus albidus, remigibus, superciliis plagaque axillari nigris.*
Cærulescent Falcon, whitish beneath, with black quill-feathers eyebrows, and axillary patch.
Axillary Falcon. *Lath. Suppl. 2. p. 42.*

Allied to the Hen-Harrier, but does not appear to be furnished with the wreath of stiffish feathers so remarkable in that bird. Native of New Holland.

JACKAL FALCON.

Falco Jackal. *F. nigricans, subtus albo varius, pectore caudaque breri rufis. Lath. Suppl. ind. orn.*
Blackish Falcon, variegated beneath with white, with the breast and short tail rufous.
Falco Jackal. *Daudin. orn. 2. p. 161.*
Le Rounoir. *Levaill. ois.*

Native of the Cape of Good Hope: size of a Buzzard, but thicker bodied, and with a shorter tail in proportion, which is of a deep rufous colour, with a black spot near the tip of each feather. At the Cape it is named the Jackal-Bird, on account of its note, which is said to resemble the cry of that animal. It builds among thick trees in the neighbourhood of houses, and preys on various kinds of

DESERT FALCON.

Falco Desertorum. *F. rufus, subtus pallidus striis obsoletis, cauda fasciis obscuris, remigibus nigris. Lath. Suppl.* 2.
Rufous Falcon, pale beneath with obscure streaks, black quill-feathers, and tail marked by dusky bars.

NATIVE of the Cape: size somewhat smaller than that of a Buzzard, and the tail longer in proportion: manners and note similar to those of the Buzzard.

BLACK-THIGHED FALCON.

Falco tibialis. *F. griseo-fuscus, gula alba, corpore subtus rufescente striis fuscis, femoribus nigris. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Grey-Brown Falcon, with white throat, rufescent body with brown streaks, and black thighs.
Black-Thighed Falcon. *Lath. Suppl.* 2.
Le Faucon à culotte noire. *Levaill. ois. pl.* 29.

LARGER than a Pigeon: under mandible truncated: tail rather rounded: bill lead-coloured; cere and legs yellow. Inhabits the *Grand Namaquas*, where it was observed by Levaillant: preys on leverets, &c.

BLACK-EYED FALCON.

Falco melanops. *F. supra nigricans, capite cano, orbitis nigris, subtus ferrugineus lineis cinereis transversis.*
Blackish Falcon, with cinereous head and black orbits, beneath ferruginous with transverse cinereous lines.
Falco melanops. *F. supra nigricans, subtus ferrugineus lineis cinereis transversis, orbitis nigris. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Black-Eyed Falcon. *Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*

LENGTH, according to Mr. Latham, about thirty-five inches: native of New Holland.

DOUBLE-TOOTHED FALCON.

Falco bidentatus. *F. rostro bidentato fusco corpore plumbeo, pectore abdomineque rufis, crisso albo, remigibus fasciis pluribus, rectricibus tribus albis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Falcon with brown double-toothed bill, lead-coloured body, rufous breast and belly, white vent, quill-feathers marked with several and the tail with three white bars.
Notched Falcon. *Lath. syn. suppl.*

LENGTH fourteen inches: under mandible and legs yellow: native of Cayenne.

BEHREE FALCON.

Falco calidus. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore fusco-nigro subtus albo lunulis nigris, rectricibus fasciis obsoletis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Yellow-legged Falcon, with blackish-brown body, white beneath with black crescents, and tail marked by indistinct pale bars.
Behree Falcon. *Lath. syn. suppl.*

NATIVE of India; where it is called Behree.

CHICQUERA FALCON.

Falco Chicquera. *F. cærulescens subtus albus, vertice nuchaque ferrugineo-rufis, cauda fascia nigra. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Blueish Falcon, white beneath, with rufo-ferruginous crown and nape, and a black bar across the tail.
Le Chicquera. *Levaill. ois. pl. 22.*

THIS is perhaps no other than a variety of the Falco cirrhatus before described, with which it agrees in the general colour, and in the structure of the lower mandible, which is truncated at the tip; but it is entirely destitute of a crest on the head. Mr. Levaillant supposes it to be a native of India.

BLACK-WINGED FALCON.

Falco melanopterus. *F. canus, subtus albus, cauda subrufescente subforficata, alarum tectricibus nigris.*
Grey Falcon, white beneath, with subrufescent subforficated tail and black wing-coverts.
Falco melanopterus. *F. pedibus plumosis, corpore cærulescente subtus albo, tectricibus alarum nigris. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Le Blac. *Levaill. ois. pl. 36. 37.*

Size of a Kestril: irides orange: bill black: legs short and yellow: the female, as usual in this genus, is somewhat larger, and of less decided colours. Native of Africa: supposed to feed principally on insects of the locust tribe.

RADIATED FALCON.

Falco radiatus. *F. ferrugineus, nigro striato-maculatus, alis caudaque elongata fuscis nigro fasciatis.*
Ferruginous Falcon with black streaks and spots, with brown quill-feathers and lengthened tail, both barred with black.
Falco radiatus. *F. nigro radiato-maculatus, corpore ferrugineo, alis caudaque elongata fuscis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Radiated Falcon. *Lath. syn. suppl. 2.*

Length nearly two feet: colour bright ferruginous, with numerous black spots and linear streaks: bill black; cere, orbits, and legs blue: quill-feathers and tail brown with several black bars. Native of New Holland.

RUFOUS-HEADED FALCON.

Falco meridionalis. *F. cera gulaque luteis, capite colloque rufis fusco nigrove striatis, abdomine albido fasciolis cinereis, rectricibus quatuor intermediis fascia unica, lateralibus sex pallidis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Falcon with luteous cere and throat, rufous head and neck with black or brown streaks, white belly with ash-coloured bars, the two middle tail-feathers marked by a single and the side ones by six pale bands.

Falco meridionalis. *Lath. ind. orn.*

Rufous-Headed Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

NATIVE of Cayenne: scapulars ash-coloured barred with brown: quills cream-colour, barred with narrow black lines: length nineteen inches.

FORSKAHL'S FALCON.

Falco Forskahlii. *Falco cera pedibusque semilanatis flavis, supra cinereus subtus ferrugineus, alis supra fuscis, cauda forficata fusco-fasciata longitudine corporis. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Falcon with cere and half-feathered legs yellow, above cinereous, beneath ferruginous, the wings brown above, the tail forked, of the length of the body, and banded with brown.

Falco ægyptius. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Falco cinereo-ferrugineus. *Forsk. F. Arab.*

NATIVE of Egypt, where it is said to be very common in summer: size somewhat smaller than a common Kite: length eighteen inches. By an oversight, very pardonable in arranging this nu-

merous genus, the present species is twice particularized in the Gmelinian edition of the Systema Naturæ, viz. first under the title of *Falco ægyptius*, and again under that of *F. Forskahlii*.

KESTRIL.

Falco Tinunculus. *F. ferrugineus nigro maculatus, capite caudaque (maris) canis, hac fascia subterminali nigra.*
Ferruginous Hawk spotted with black, the head and tail (of the male) grey, the latter marked by a subterminal black bar.
Falco Tinunculus. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, dorso rufo punctis nigris, pectore striis fuscis cauda rotundata. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
The Kestril, Stannel, Windhover. *Will. orn. p.* 84. *Penn. Brit. Zool. edit. fol. p.* 68. *pl.* A. *Hayes Brit. Birds. pl.* 4.

By far the most elegant of the smaller British Hawks: general length of the male about fourteen inches, and the breadth about two feet three inches: colour of the back and wing-coverts bright ferruginous, spotted with black: the quill-feathers black with pale edges; the head blueish grey with small longitudinal black streaks; and the tail blue-grey with a broad black bar near the tip, which is white: the under parts of the bird are pale or yellow-ferruginous, with longitudinal black streaks: the bill is blue; the cere and legs yellow. The female is much larger than the male: the colour of the back and wings less bright, and the spots disposed into transverse bars; the head pale ferruginous, streaked with black, and the tail of similar colour, marked by numerous black bars, that at the tip

being rather broader than the rest. It is said that the male bird scarcely differs from the female in plumage during its first and second year.

The Kestril is a very common inhabitant of our own country, and in clear weather is very frequently observed in the state so well described by Mr. Pennant, viz. "fixed, as it were, in one place, and fanning the air with its wings." At such times it is intent on its prey below, which frequently consists of the different species of field-mice, frogs, &c. It also preys on birds, and such is the violence with which it sometimes directs its horizontal flight, either in avoiding some more powerful enemy of its own tribe, or in the ardent pursuit of distant prey, that it has been known to break through a pane of glass, and fall stunned into the middle of a room in which were two opposite windows*. It has been often trained to the pursuit of the smaller kind of game, and is said to have been excellent in the chace of partridges and quails, and sometimes even of pheasants. It usually breeds either in tall trees, the hollows of rocks, or of lofty towers and ruins, and lays four eggs, similar in colour to those of the Ring-Tail. The best figures of the Kestril are those in the folio edition of the British Zoology.

* Such an event I remember to have happened; and it was supposed that some pigeons on the opposite side might have occasioned the Hawk's mistake.

Var.

LEAD-COLOURED KESTRIL.

Entirely lead-coloured or cinereous, except the tail, which was blackish, and the thighs and vent, which were fulvous. Supposed to be a native of Germany.

SPOTTED GREY KESTRIL.

Back, wings, and tail cinereous or ash-colour, barred with dusky or blackish spots: head and whole body beneath subfulvous, the breast and belly streaked by small blackish shaft-stripes: tail lead-coloured, with several black bars: throat and front yellowish white: bill blackish horn-colour, with the base of the mandibles, cere, and legs yellow. Germany.

Some other varieties of the Kestril, differing in size and colour, may be found in the works of ornithological writers.

STONE FALCON.

Falco Lithofalco. *F. cera lutea, corpore supra cinereo, subtus rufo maculis longitudinalibus fuscis, cauda cinerea, versus apicem nigricante, apice alba. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Falcon with luteous cere, body grey above, beneath rufous with longitudinal dusky spots, and cinereous tail black towards the tip, which is white.

F. Lithofalco. *F. cera lutea, corpore fusco cinereo, subtus rufescente striis fuscis, rectricibus apice nigricantibus albo terminatis, lateralibus nigro fasciatis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Stone-Falcon. *Will. orn.* Le Rochier. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 447.

This species, according to Monsieur Sonnini, is rather smaller than the Kestril, measuring something more than twelve inches in length: the wings, when closed, reach about three quarters the length of the tail: the first feather of the wings is much shorter than the second, which is the longest of all: the feathers on the upper part of the head and body, with the wing-coverts, are cinereous with black shafts: between the nostrils and the eye is a slight mixture of reddish: the throat and lower part of the neck are white with black shafts: the upper part of the neck, the breast, belly, sides, thighs, and lower tail-coverts are brown with black shafts: the larger wing-feathers are brown, barred transversly on their inner webs with white, except the first, which is barred on both sides: the smaller wing-feathers are cinereous, barred internally with white: the tail cinereous, but blackish towards the end, tipped with white, and marked by a few

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STONE FALCON

1808. Sep.r 1. London. Published by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

blackish spots*: the cere, irides, and legs are yellow: the bill cinereous blue, and the claws black. The above is the description given by Monsieur Sonnini, who observes, that the Stone-Falcon. though an European bird, seems to be but imperfectly known.

MOUNTAIN FALCON.

Falco montanus. *F. pedibus luteis, corpore supra ex fusco cinereo, gula jugulóque albidis, maculatis, caudæ basi cinerea, medio nigricante, apice albo. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Falcon with yellow legs, body above brown-cinereous, throat white and spotted, tail grey at the base, blackish in the middle, and white at the tip.

Falco montanus. *Raii. av. p.* 13. *Briss. orn.*

Mountain Falcon. *Will. orn. Lath. syn.*

This is said to be less than the Peregrine Falcon, but with a shorter tail: the throat spotted sometimes with black or ferruginous, and sometimes entirely black. Mr. Latham observes, after Brisson, that when the bird has arrived at its full colours the head is black. Brisson thinks it probable that it may be a variety of the Stone-Falcon, and likewise mentions another variety of a cinereous colour above, paler on the wing-coverts, and beneath entirely white.

* Mr. Latham describes the tail as barred transversly with black, except on the two middle feathers.

LUNATED FALCON.

Falco lunulatus. *F. fuscus, pectore maculoso, fronte lunula colli corporeque subtus flavescentibus. Lath. suppl. ind. orn.*
Brown Falcon, with spotted breast; front, crescent of the neck, and body beneath yellowish.
Lunated Falcon. *Lath. suppl.* 2.

NATIVE of New Holland: length twelve inches: all the upper parts brown, the under buff-yellow, passing upwards in shape of a crescent on each side under the eyes: breast marked with numerous brown spots, and thighs with fine brown lines.

FAIR FALCON.

Falco clarus. *F. fuscus, capite & corpore subtus albo, vertice & abdomine medio cærulescentibus. Lath. suppl. ind. orn.*
Brown Falcon, with the head and body beneath white, the top of the head and abdomen blueish in the middle.
Fair Falcon. *Lath. suppl.* 2.

NATIVE of New Holland: length about twelve inches: legs and irides yellow: said to vary in having the top of the head spotted with black.

LURID FALCON

Falco discolor. *F. griseo-nigricans, subtus ferrugineus, tectricibus inferioribus alarum & caudæ albis. Lath. suppl. ind. orn.*
Blackish-grey Falcon, beneath ferruginous, with the under wing and tail-coverts white.
Rusty and grey Falcon. *Lath. suppl.* 2.

MENTIONED by Mr. Latham from a description given in the Transactions of the Natural History Society of Paris: size not particularized: native of Cayenne.

SONNINI'S FALCON.

Falco Sonninensis. *F. cauda subforcipata, corpore cinereo subtus albo, tibiis plumosis. Lath. suppl. ind. orn.*
Falcon with subforcipated tail, cinereous body white beneath, and plumed legs.

LENGTH about a foot: bill very hooked, and an inch long: cere and legs yellow: tail scarce perceptibly forked unless when expanded. Native of Egypt, where, according to Monsieur Sonnini, it is common, hovering about over the rice-fields in the manner of a Kestril.

WINKING FALCON.

Falco connivens. *F. badius subtus flavescens maculis fuscis, cervice & axillaribus albo-maculatis. Lath. suppl. ind. orn.*
Brown Falcon, yellowish beneath with brown spots, with the neck and axillary feathers spotted with white.
Winking Falcon. *Lath. suppl.* 2.

SIZE of a Hen-Harrier: quill and tail feathers barred with white. Native of New Holland.

PACIFIC FALCON.

Falco pacificus. *F. fuscus nigro maculatus, subtus flavescens lineis nigris, capite colloque albis. Lath. suppl. ind. orn.*
Brown Falcon spotted with black, beneath yellowish with black lines; the head and neck white.

LENGTH from sixteen to eighteen inches: bill, irides, and legs yellow: tail longish, with seven or eight oblique black bars. Native of New Holland.

SPARROW-HAWK.

Falco Nisus. *F. griseo-fuscus, subtus albidus fusco undulatus, cauda nigro fasciata apice alba.*

Grey-Brown Hawk, beneath whitish undulated with brown, tail barred with black, and white at the tip.

Falco Nisus. *F. cera viridi, pedibus flavis, abdomine albo griseo undulato, cauda fasciis nigricantibus. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Sparrow-Hawk. *Will. orn. Penn. Brit. Zool. Lath. syn.*

This well-known species, so remarkable for the ravages it commits in the neighbourhood of dove-houses, &c. is numbered by Falconers among the short-winged Hawks, or such in which the wings when closed fall short of the end of the tail. It is a species in which the difference of size between the male and female is more remarkable than in most other Hawks; the male usually measuring about twelve inches, and the female fifteen. The general colour is grey-brown above, varying in depth or intensity in different individuals: the quill-feathers are marked by blackish or dusky bars, and the tail is crossed by four or five blackish bars: the under parts of the bird are white, elegantly crossed or undulated by numerous linear dusky or blackish bars: the bill is dusky-blue, the cere and legs yellow. In some birds the throat and breast are marked by perpendicular rufous or dusky streaks, while the abdomen is barred as before described; and in some a cast of ferruginous takes place on various parts of the plumage. "This, says Mr. Pennant, is the most pernicious Hawk

we have; and makes great havoc among pigeons as well as partridges. It builds in hollow trees, in old nests of crows, large ruins, and high rocks, and lays four white eggs, encircled near the blunter end with red specks."

Monsieur Brisson mentions a variety of the Sparrow-Hawk, spotted and otherwise varied with white; and Mr. Latham records an elegant specimen entirely of a milk-white colour, which was shot in Dorsetshire.

PIGEON-HAWK.

Falco columbarius. *F. griseus, subtus albus maculis oblongis nigris, cauda fusca fasciis quatuor cinereis.*

Grey Hawk, white beneath with oblong black spots, and brown tail crossed by four grey bands.

Falco columbarius. *F. cera pedibusque luteis, corpore fusco subtus albido, cauda fusca fasciis linearibus quatuor albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Pigeon Hawk. *Catesb. Carol.* 1. *pl.* 3.

This is a North-American species, and seems to have been first described by Catesby in his Natural History of Carolina. It usually measures about ten or twelve inches in length, and is of a blueish grey colour above, with a dark or blackish streak on each feather: the quill-feathers are dusky, and marked on their inner webs with large, oval, white spots: the tail is long, of a black colour tipped with white, and crossed by four bands of blueish

grey: the hind-head is generally spotted with pale ferruginous, and the under parts of the bird are white, with large oblong black spots. This species is found from Hudson's Bay as low as South Carolina. In Hudson's Bay it appears, according to Mr. Pennant, in May, on the banks of the Severn river; breeds, and retires south in autumn. It feeds on small birds, and on the approach of any person flies in circles, and makes a great shrieking. It forms its nest in a rock, or some hollow tree, with sticks and grass, and lines it with feathers. It lays from two to four eggs, which are white spotted with red. In Carolina it is observed to prey on pigeons and the young of wild turkies.

Var.

DUBIOUS FALCON.

This is described by Mr. Pennant in his Arctic Zoology, and is probably a variety of the preceding bird. Its length is about ten inches: the bill dusky; the cere, legs, and irides yellow: the head dusky with ferruginous streaks; the back and wing-coverts brown, edged with ferruginous: the primary or large wing-feathers dusky ash-colour barred with black; the inner webs marked transversly with oval ferruginous spots: the breast and belly dull white, with oblong brown streaks nearly as in the English Merlin: the tail long, deep cinereous, crossed with four black bars.

GREAT-BILLED SPARROW-HAWK.

Falco magnirostris. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, corpore supra fusco subtus albo ferrugineo striato, cauda fasciis nigris et albis. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Hawk with yellow cere and legs, body brown above, white beneath with transverse ferruginous streaks, and tail marked by black and white bars.

Epervier à gros bec de Cayenne. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 464.

Slightly described by Buffon, who received it from Cayenne: size somewhat larger than that of a Sparrow-Hawk, to which it is much allied, but has a larger bill in proportion, and the throat is subferruginous.

INGRIAN FALCON.

Falco vespertinus. *F. fusco-cærulescens, subtus albidus, cera pedibus palpebrisque lutcis crisso femoribusque ferrugineis.*

Blueish-brown Falcon, whitish beneath, with yellow cere, eyelids, and legs, and ferruginous vent and thighs.

Falco vespertinus. *F. cera pedibus palpebrisque luteis, crisso femoribusque ferrugineis. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Ingrian Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

Size of a pigeon: bill yellow with a brown tip: native of Russia and Siberia, flying chiefly in the evening, and even by night, and preying principally on quails. The bird which I have already

described as a supposed variety of the Kestril, under the title of Lead-coloured Kestril, may perhaps belong to the present species.

GUIANA FALCON.

Falco superciliosus. *F. cera pedibus palpebrisque luteis, corpore fusco albido undulato, remigibus ferrugineis nigro fasciatis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Falcon with luteous cere, eyelids, and legs, brown body with whitish undulations, and ferruginous wing-feathers banded with black.

Guiana Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

It is, according to Linnæus, of the size of a Magpie, with the body brown above, the lower parts and thighs thickly undulated with black: the wing-feathers ferruginous with several black bars, but the secondaries are whitish on their hinder edges: the tail is black, with two broad cinereous bars, and is also cinereous at the tip: the vent is white with black variegations: the eye-brows naked beneath and prominent: the lores or spaces between the bill and eye beset with black spreading bristles: the bill and legs black: the under wing-coverts white, with very fine black lines. Native of South America.

CAPE KESTRIL.

Falco Capensis. *F. supra ferrugineus nigro maculatus, subtus rufo-flavescens maculis longitudinalibus nigris, cauda albido nigroque fasciata.*

Falcon, ferruginous above with black spots, beneath rufo-flavesent with longitudinal black spots; and the tail marked by black and whitish bars.

Le Montagnard. *Levaill. ois. pl. 35.*

So much allied is this bird to the Falco Tinnunculus or European Kestril, that we can hardly consider it in any other light than as the Kestril modified and in some degree altered by the effect of climate. The figure given by Monsieur Levaillant under the title of Le Montagnard, seems to differ in scarcely any material respect from a female Kestril. It is however, according to Levaillant, a larger bird, and differs in having the tail more rounded, and barred in a similar manner in both sexes, while the wings are somewhat shorter in proportion. It is found in many of the interior parts of Africa, and is likewise very common at the Cape of Good Hope, where it is called the red or stone-falcon. It is chiefly observed in high and rocky situations, and feeds on the smaller kind of quadrupeds, lizards, insects, &c. It makes its nest among rocks, of dry twigs and grass, and lays six, seven, or even eight eggs, which are of a deep rufous colour, resembling the plumage of the bird itself.

ASIATIC SOCIETY

Griffith. sculp.

HOBBY

1808. Sept.r 1 London. Publishid by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

THE HOBBY.

Falco Subbuteo. *F. subcæruleo nigricans, subtus albus maculis oblongis fuscis, genis utrinque macula descendente nigra.*
Blueish-dusky Falcon, beneath white with oblong black spots, and cheeks marked on each side by a descending black spot.
Falco Subbuteo. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, dorso fusco, nucha alba, abdomine pallido maculis oblongis fuscis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
The Hobby. *Will. orn. Penn. Brit. Zool. &c.*

The Hobby is well described by Mr. Pennant. "It is, says he, a bird of passage, but breeds in England, and migrates in October. The male weighs seven ounces: the length is one foot; the breadth two feet three inches: cere and orbits yellow: irides hazel: upper mandible furnished with a process: above each eye a white line: the crown of the head and back are of a deep blueish black: the hind part of the head is marked with two pale yellow spots; each cheek with a black one pointing downwards: the coverts of the wings are of the same colour with the back, but slightly edged with rust-colour: the interior webs of the secondary and quill-feathers are varied with oval transverse reddish spots: the breast white, marked with oblong spots of black: thighs and vent-feathers pale orange: the two middle feathers of the tail are entirely of a deep dove-colour: the others are barred on their interior sides with rust-colour and tipped with a dirty white. The spots on the breast of the female are of a higher colour than those of

the male: it is greatly superior in size: its legs have a tinge of green; in other respects it resembles the former."

ORANGE-BREASTED HOBBY.

Falco aurantius. *F. rostro pedibusque plumbeis, corpore nigricante, dorso basique caudæ fasciis albicantibus interruptis, pectore fulvo, femoribus ferrugineis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Falcon with lead-coloured bill and legs, blackish body with the back and base of the tail marked by interrupted whitish bars, fulvous breast, and ferruginous thighs.

Orange-Breasted Hobby. *Lath. syn.*

The different specimens of this bird vary in size, some measuring ten, and others fifteen inches: they also vary in intensity of colour, some being marked with blueish instead of whitish bands on the back; and the smaller varieties have orange-coloured legs. Supposed to be a native of South America.

GREATER HOBBY.

Falco pinetarius. *F. supra nigro-cærulescens, fasciis obsoletis cinereis rufo-griseisque, subtus rufo-albus genis nigris.*

Falcon of a blueish black colour above with obscure cinereous and rufous-grey bars, beneath rufous-white with black cheeks.

F. Subbuteo-Major. *F. fasciatus supra nigricans subtus rufo-albus, genis nigris, rectricibus fusco cinereoque fasciatis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl. 2.*

Der Grosse Baumfalke. *Allg. Ueb. der Vog. 1. Zusass. p. 660.*

This is much allied to the common Hobby, but according to its describers, is as large as a Raven. In its colours it considerably resembles the Peregrine Falcon, and inhabits the pine-forests of Germany, preying on hares, grous, and small birds. The female is considerably larger than the male, and less distinct in colours. In both the spots on the under parts are disposed into a kind of bars.

SPOTTED-TAILED HOBBY.

Falco plumbeus. *F. cera obscura, pedibus flavis, capite dorso infimo abdomineque cinereis, rectricibus lateralibus intus maculis tribus albis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Falcon with obscure cere, yellow legs, head, lower part of back, and abdomen cinereous, and tail-feathers marked internally with three white spots.

Spotted-Tailed Hobby. *Lath. ind. orn.*

Size of a Sparrow-Hawk. Native of Cayenne. Described by Mr. Latham from a preserved specimen.

THE MERLIN.

Falco Æsalon. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, capite ferrugineo, corpore supra ex cœrulescente cinereo, maculis striisque ferrugineis, subtus ex flavicante albo maculis oblongis. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Falcon with yellow cere and legs, ferruginous head, body above blueish grey with ferruginous spots and streaks, beneath yellowish white with oblong spots.

Falco Æsalon. *Briss. orn.*

Merlin. *Will. orn. Penn. Brit. Zool. edit. fol. p. 70. pl. A. 12.*

The Merlin is the smallest of the British Hawks, and scarcely exceeds the size of a Blackbird. It is thus accurately described by Mr. Pennant. "The Merlin weighs near five ounces and a half: its length is twelve inches; its breadth twenty-five: the bill is of a blueish lead-colour; the cere of a

lemon-colour: the irides very dark, almost black: the head is ferruginous, and each feather is marked with a black streak along the shaft: the back and wings are of a deep blueish ash-colour, adorned with ferruginous streaks and spots, and edged with the same: the quill-feathers are almost black, marked with reddish oval spots: the under coverts of the wings brown, beautifully marked with round white spots: the tail is five inches long, crossed with alternate bars of dusky and reddish clay-colour: on some of the feathers of the same bird are thirteen, on some fifteen; but in one bird I examined were no more than eight: the breast and belly are of a yellowish white, marked with oblong brown spots pointing downwards: the legs yellow: the wings when closed reach within an inch and a half of the end of the tail. This species was often trained for hawking, and small as it is, was inferior to none in point of spirit: it was used for taking partridges, which it would kill by a single stroke on the neck. The Merlin flies low, and is often seen along road-sides, skimming from one side of the hedges to the other in search of prey."

The Merlin, according to Mr. Pennant, does not breed in England, but migrates into this country in October, about the time that the Hobby disappears. Mr. Latham however, on the authority of a highly respectable observer, assures us that it breeds in Cumberland, placing its nest on the ground, in the manner of the Ring-Tail.

Of this two instances have occurred, and in both were observed four young birds. The eggs, on the authority of the Portland Museum, are said to be of a plain chocolate-brown colour, roundish, and an inch and a quarter in length.

Var.

CARIBBEE MERLIN.

Inhabits the Antilles, and is but very little superior in size to a Thrush. It is rufous above, spotted with black; and beneath white, with black longitudinal spots. Another variety is recorded by Buffon, allied in habit to the Hobby, and figured in the Planches Enluminées under the title of *Emerlillon*. Buffon calls it *Esmerillon des Fauconniers*.

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AMERICAN MERLIN.

1806 Sept.r 1. London. Published by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

AMERICAN MERLIN.

Falco Sparverius. *F. ferrugineus, nigro subcæruleoque varius, gula alba; femina feminam Tinnunculi referente.*
Ferruginous Hawk with black and blue-grey variegations and white throat; the female coloured like the female Kestril.
Falco Sparverius. *F. cera lutea, capite fusco, vertice abdomineque rubro, alis cærulescentibus. Lin. Syst. Nat.* (Mas.)
F. cera pedibusque luteis, capite cinereo, corpore rufo-vinaceo nigro fasciato, subtus albido maculis ferrugineis, rectricibus fasciis undecim nigris. Lath. ind. orn. (Fem.)
Little Falcon. *Catesb. Carol.* 1. *pl.* 5.
Little Falcon. *Lath. syn.*
Esmerillon de Cayenne. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 444.
Falco Dominicensis. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
St. Domingo Falcon. *Penn. Arct. Zool.*
Emerillon de St. Domingue. *Pl. Enl.* 465.
New York Merlin. *Lath. syn.*

A most elegant species, greatly allied in general appearance to the Kestril, but of considerably smaller size, and the male of a more variegated aspect, being of a fine deep ferruginous colour above, somewhat paler or yellower beneath, with a white throat, the back spotted with black, the wing-coverts of a fine dove-colour or blue-grey with black spots, the quill-feathers blackish, the tail ferruginous with a black bar near the tip, and the two exterior feathers white with black bars: the head is dove-coloured in front and at the nape, while beneath each eye is a descending black spot, generally accompanied by two others at some distance beyond it on each side. The female has the head coloured as in the male, but with the

throat less white: in other respects it is similar to the female Kestril. This beautiful species inhabits various parts both of North and South America, occurring, according to Pennant, from Nova Scotia to the Antilles. It is a bird of an active and spirited nature, and preys on small birds, mice, lizards, and insects.

CRIARD FALCON.

Falco clamosus. *F. griseus, alarum tectricibus nigris, subtus albus, orbitis rubris, palpebris ciliatis.*

Grey Falcon, with black wing-coverts, beneath white, with red orbits and ciliated eyelids.

Falco vociferus. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore cinereo-griseo subtus albo, tectricibus alarum minoribus majoribusque nigris. Lath. ind. orn.*

Criard Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

Petite Buse criarde. *Sonner. voy. ind. 2. p.* 184.

Native of India, frequenting the coast of Coromandel: size of a Wood-Pigeon: bill short: irides and legs yellow: often seen in rice-fields, where it feeds on frogs, &c. and when disturbed sets up a loud cry.

TACHIRO FALCON.

Falco Tachiro. *Falco fuscus, subtus albus maculis lunatis, rectricibus fasciatis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Brown Falcon, white beneath with lunated brown spots, and fasciated tail.
Speckled Sparrow-Hawk. *Lath. syn.*

NEARLY the size of a Goshawk: head and neck varied with white: wing-feathers white at the tips: tail longish, brown, with deeper bands: bill blueish: irides and legs yellow. Inhabits the deep forests of Africa, and is figured and described by Monsieur Levaillant under the name of *Le Tachiro.*

TACHARD FALCON.

Falco Tachardus. *F. fuscus, subtus flavescens fusco varius, cauda fasciatu, tibiis maculatis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Brown Falcon, yellowish beneath with brown variegations, fasciated tail, and spotted thighs.
Tachard Falcon. *Lath. suppl.* 2. Le Tachard. *Levaill. ois.*

HABIT of a Buzzard, but smaller: tail longish, brown, with blackish bars: legs red: thighs well plumed. Native of Africa, frequenting the banks of rivers.

GABAR FALCON.

Falco Gabar. *F. fuscus, subtus griseo-cœrulescens, abdomine albo fasciis fuscis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Brown Falcon, blueish-grey beneath, with white abdomen banded with brown.
Red-Legged Falcon. *Lath. suppl.* 2. Le Gabar. *Levaill. ois.*

Size of a Sparrow-Hawk: bill black: irides yellow: cere and legs bright red: thighs banded with brown like the belly. Native of the interior of Africa.

BUZON FALCON.

Falco Buzon. *F. nigricans, rufo varius, subtus rufus, rectricibus nigris medio fascia interrupta alba. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.* 2.
Blackish Falcon with rufous variegations, beneath rufous, with black tail marked on the middle by an interrupted white bar.
Hobby Buzzard. *Lath. suppl.* 2. Le Buzon. *Levaill. ois.*

Size of a Hobby: bill dusky: cere and legs yellow: wings, when closed, reach only about a third of the tail: Native of Cayenne.

BUZZARET FALCON.

Falco Buzarellus. *F. fasciatus, supra rufo-fuscus, subtus flavescens, remigibus nigris. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Fasciated Falcon, above rufous-brown, beneath yellowish, with black wing-feathers.
Buzzaret. *Lath. syn. suppl.* 2. Le Buseray. *Levaill. ois.*

Size of the Moor-Buzzard: head and neck rufous white, varied with brown: back and wings rufous, spotted or streaked with black in a fasciated manner: tail barred with similar colours: wings, when closed, reach to the end of the tail. Inhabits Cayenne, and may perhaps be the species mentioned by Monsieur Mauduit in the Encyclopedie Methodique under the name of *Busard roux de Cayenne.*

BRISSONIAN HAWK.

Falco Brissonianus. *F. fuscus rufo variis, subtus albus striis subferrugineis transversis, cauda nigro fasciata.*
Brown Hawk with rufous variegations, beneath white with transverse subferruginous streaks, and tail barred with black.
Falco minutus. *F. cera fusca, pedibus luteis, corpore subtus albo, rectricibus fuscis nigro fasciatis. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Accipiter minor. *Briss. av.* Falco minutus. *Lath. ind. orn.*

Described by Brisson, who says it is smaller than the Merlin, measuring only eleven inches and three quarters: the bill is black, the cere brown,

and the legs yellow: it is a native of Malta, and, according to Brisson, varies occasionally, in having lance-shaped spots on the breast, and only four bands across the tail, which, in the figure accompanying Monsieur Brisson's description, appears to be crossed by five or six.

VIELLOTINE HAWK.

Falco Viellotinus. *F. ferrugincus, gula albida, pectore abdomine femoribusque albo ferrugineoque striatis.*
Ferruginous Hawk, with whitish throat; the breast, belly, and thighs marked by white and ferruginous stripes.
Le Petit Malfini. *Sonnini Buff.*

Native of St. Domingo: length nine inches: colour uniform ferruginous above; the throat white, with a dusky streak down the shafts of the feathers; the breast, belly, and thighs varied with ferruginous and white bars. Described by Sonnini from Monsieur Viellote, who discovered the species. The female has not been observed.

DWARF HAWK.

Falco Minullus. *F. fuscus, subtus albus, pectore striis descendentibus, abdomine fasciis transversis fuscis.*

Brown Hawk white beneath, the breast marked by descending brown streaks, the abdomen by transverse brown bars.

Falco Minullus. *F. fuscus, subtus albus, pectore striis abdomine fasciis fuscis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*

Le Minule. *Levaill. ois. pl.* 34. Dwarf Hawk. *Lath. suppl.* 2.

Smaller than a Merlin: upper parts brown, the tail crossed by a few deeper bars: under parts white, marked on the throat and breast by oblong brown spots, and on the belly and thighs by narrow transverse bars. This small Hawk is a native of the interior of Africa, where it was observed by Monsieur Levaillant, who describes it as of a highly bold and spirited nature, preying on small birds, and occasionally driving away from its haunts even the larger birds of its own genus, as well as Shrikes, &c. It builds on trees, forming its nest of small twigs, intermixed with moss and leaves externally, and lining it with wool and feathers: the eggs are five in number, spotted with brown near each end. The female bird is nearly twice the size of the male. Monsieur Levaillant relates a singular instance of the audacity of this species. He was sitting at a table, engaged in preparing some birds lately killed; when one of these Hawks suddenly stooped, and seized one of the newly stuffed specimens, and flying with it to a neighbouring tree, began to plume and tear it open, but finding

nothing but moss and cotton, seemed indignant at the disappointment, and, after tearing in pieces the skin, at length contented itself with devouring the head, the only part which remained in its natural state.

BARRED HAWK.

Falco doliatus. *F. fuscus superciliis albis, alis albido fasciatis, subtus albo-flavescens fusco maculatus.*

Brown Hawk with white eyebrows and whitish-banded wings, beneath yellowish white with brown spots.

Emerillon varié. *Sonnini Buff.* Emerillon bariolé. *Daud. ois.*

Length ten inches: bill violet: cere, irides, and legs yellow; tail marked with whitish bars, more apparent beneath than above: under tail-coverts and flanks brown, with two or three round white spots on each side the shafts: thighs ferruginous with black shafts. Native of Carolina: observed by Bosc.

SIBERIAN HAWK.

Falco Sibiricus. *F. plumbeus, torque ferrugineo, subtus albida maculis ferrugineo-fuscis.*

Lead-coloured Hawk with ferruginous collar, beneath white with ferruginous-brown spots.

Falco Regulus. *F. cerâ virescente, pedibus obscure flavis torque ferrugineo, corpore supra plumbeo, subtus albido maculis ex ferrugineo fuscis. Pall. it. 2. p. 707. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Siberian Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

NATIVE of Siberia: observed by Dr. Pallas: shape or habit that of a Kestril: weight less than half a pound: cere greenish, irides brown, which colour, according to Dr. Pallas, is observed in all the more spirited kind of Hawks. The particular size of this species is not mentioned. It is said to prey chiefly on Larks.

CÆRULESCENT HAWK.

Falco cærulescens. *F. nigro-cærulescens, subtus luteus, genis albis macula descendente nigra, remigibus rectricibusque intus albo-fasciatis.*

Blueish-Black Hawk, luteous beneath, with white cheeks marked by a descending black spot; the quill and tail-feathers barred internally with white.

The little black and orange-coloured Indian Hawk. *Edw. pl.* 108.

Falco cærulescens. *F. cera palpebris pedibus subtusque luteus, temporibus linea alba inclusis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Bengal Falcon. *Lath. syn.*

This very small and elegant species was first described by Edwards under the title of the *Little black and orange-coloured Indian Hawk.* The individual which he has figured seems to have been a female bird, and appears to measure about six inches in length: its colour on the upper parts is an elegant glossy blue-black, and on the under parts bright orange-yellow: the orbits of the eyes are bare and yellow; the forehead and sides of the head white; and from each eye downwards runs a long black spot or streak, as in several of the Falcon tribe: the tail-feathers are crossed on their inner webs by several white bars: the bill is blue, and furnished with a strong tooth or process on each side the upper mandible: the cere and legs are yellow, and it is observable that the latter are very strong, rather short, and that the proportions

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CŒRULESCENT HAWK.

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of the whole bird are somewhat like those of an Eagle in miniature. The male differs in being still smaller than the female, and in being white beneath, with a tinge of yellow-ferruginous on the abdomen: above and beneath each eye is a white stripe, as in the female. The Cærulescent Hawk is a native of Bengal, and it is probable that, notwithstanding its diminutive size, it has been sometimes trained to the pursuit of game; since, according to Edwards, the specimen which he described had on each of its legs a piece of leather, such as Hawk's bells are usually fastened with.

TINY HAWK.

Falco tinus. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore cinereo-fusco, subtus albido fasciis nigricantibus, vertice albido. Lath. ind. orn.*
Hawk with yellow legs, cinereous-brown body white beneath with blackish bars, and whitish crown.
Tiny Hawk. *Lath. syn. suppl.*

Described by Mr. Latham from a specimen in the Leverian Museum. Mr. Latham commemorates it as by far the smallest of the hawk kind he ever met with; but there seems to be some mistake as to the length, which is said to be six inches from the bill to the rump, the tail being wanting in the specimen. The reader will observe that the preceding species measures scarcely more than six inches from the bill to the end of the tail.

STRIX. OWL.

Generic Character.

Rostrum aduncum, absque cera.	*Bill* hooked, without cere.
Nares oblongæ, pennis setaceis recumbentibus obtectæ.	*Nostrils* oblong, covered with recumbent setaceous feathers.
Caput grande, auribus oculisque magnis.	*Head*, eyes, and ears large.
Lingua bifida.	*Tongue* bifid.
Digitus externus retro mobilis.	*Exterior toe* moveable backwards.

THE alliance between the genus Strix and that of Falco is extremely strong, and indeed Owls may be considered as a kind of nocturnal Hawks, differing, as Linnæus most happily observes, from those birds, in the same manner as Moths differ from Butterflies; the one being chiefly nocturnal, and the other diurnal. They possess the power of turning backwards at pleasure the exterior toe or joint of the foot: their sense of hearing is very acute, on account of the large orifices of their ears: their sight, in general, is dull or feeble by day, but strong during the hours of evening, or in very dusky, obscure states of the atmosphere. They are divided into the Horned Owls, or such as have

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Cook sculp.

GREAT HORNED OWL
from Leverian Muscum.

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lengthened feathers on each side the head, resembling horns or ears, capable of being more or less erected at the pleasure of the bird, and into the Smooth-Headed Owls, or such as are destitute of the elongated plumes above-mentioned. To these I shall in the present work take the liberty of adding a third division, under the name of Accipitrine Owls, or such as from their general habit, which is more slender than in the two preceding sections, their greater length of tail, and their subdiurnal flight, are more nearly allied to Hawks than the rest of their congeners.

GREAT HORNED OWL.

Strix Bubo. *S. auriculata rufa, maculis punctisque nigris, fuscis, cinereisque variato.*
Rufous Horned Owl, variegated with black, brown, and ash-coloured spots and freckles.
Strix Bubo. *S. capite auriculato, corpore rufo. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Strix Bubo. *Museum Leverianum. p.* 119.
Great Horn-Owl, or Eagle-Owl. *Will. orn.*
Le Grand Duc. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 435.
Eagle-Owl. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*

Of all the species of Owls yet known the present is the largest, being scarcely inferior in size to an Eagle. Its general colour is rufous or ferruginous, varied with larger and smaller spots and markings of brown, black, and grey; together with innumerable freckles or minute specks of the same colours.

It is found however of a deeper or lighter hue, according to various circumstances of age, health, and climate: the larger wing and tail-feathers are obscurely varied by dusky transverse bars: the bill is black, the eyes very large, and of a bright reddish or golden-orange colour: the legs are short and strong, thickly clothed, down to the very claws, with fine downy and setaceous plumes, and the claws are extremely large, strong, and black.

This species, including its varieties, appears to be pretty generally diffused throughout the temperate and northern parts of the old continent, and is even supposed to occur both in North and South America*. In our own country it is very rarely seen, and can only be considered in the light of an occasional straggler. In Germany it seems to be more common than in other parts of Europe. It preys in the manner of Eagles and the larger Falcons, on hares, rabbets, and almost all kind of birds, and builds its nest, which is composed of strong twigs, and lined or spread with dried leaves, &c. among the crags of rocks, or among ruined edifices, and lays, as is supposed, rarely more than two eggs, which are larger and rounder than those of a hen, and of a rufous colour, blotched with variegations not much unlike those of the bird itself.

It is needless to observe that Owls in general are regarded in most countries as birds of ill omen,

* The Jurucutu of Marcgrave seems to be the same species, as well as the Bubo Ludovicianus, or Grand Duc de la Louisiane of Monsieur Daudin.

ASIATIC SOCIETY

Griffith sculp.

ATHENIAN HORNED OWL.
from Edwards

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and superstitiously considered as messengers of woe. This appears to be the case in the New World as well as the Old, since the Americans hold the same opinion. The Athenians alone among the ancients seem to have been free from this popular prejudice, and to have regarded the Owl with veneration rather than abhorrence, considering it as the favorite bird of Minerva. The kind thus venerated appears to have been a variety of the present species, somewhat smaller than those which occur in the colder parts of Europe, and of rather darker colours, and is said to be common in many parts of Greece.

But, if the Greeks thus honoured the appearance of the Owl, the Romans on the contrary viewed it with detestation and dread: It was held consecrated to Proserpine: its appearance foreboded unfortunate events, and we are assured by Pliny that even the city of Rome itself underwent a solemn lustration in consequence of one of these birds having accidentally strayed into the Capitol.

The generality of figures of this magnificent species do but ill express the beauty of its plumage, the variegations of which are such as to produce an uncommonly elegant association of colours in themselves obscure. One of the finest specimens I recollect any where to have seen was preserved in the Leverian Museum, and is represented in the third number of the work entitled Museum Leverianum: it is copied into the present work, and is accompanied by Edwards's representation of the smaller or Athenian variety.

LAPLAND HORNED OWL.

Strix Scandiaca. *Lin. Syst. Nat.* This, from the description given by Linnæus, on the authority of a drawing in the possession of Rudbeck, and confirmed by the attestation of a Mr. Tonning of Drontheim in Norway, is, probably, no other than a variety of the Strix Bubo or Great Horned Owl, in a state of plumage changed into whiteness by the effect of an arctic winter; a circumstance which is well known to take place in several of the northern animals. Its size is compared to that of a Turky: the body is whitish, with black spots, and the head furnished with ear-like plumes. It has been observed in the Alpine parts of Swedish Lapland*.

BARE-LEGGED HORNED OWL.

This is commemorated by Aldrovandus, and from him repeated by Willughby and others. It differs only in having the legs less stout, destitute of feathers, and furnished with smaller claws, perhaps owing to some accidental circumstance, or from inaccuracy in the drawing, from which alone it seems to have been described by Aldrovandus.

* See *Rariora Norvegiæ*, in Amoen: Acad: vol. 7. p. 479.

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VIRGINIAN HORNED OWL

1808 Sept.r 1. London Published by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

This, which is described and figured by Monsieur Levaillant, is of somewhat smaller size than the European bird, with a browner and less elegantly variegated plumage: it is found about the Cape of Good Hope, where it frequents rocky places, forming its nest with a heap of small branches, mixed with dried leaves and moss, and depositing three eggs.

MAGELLANIC HORNED OWL.

Size of a Goose: colour consisting of white, yellow, and blackish variegations: ear-feathers or horns two inches long: mentioned by Marcgrave.

VIRGINIAN HORNED OWL.

Strix Virginiana. *S. auriculata fusca, cinereo rufoque variata, subtus albida lineis transversis fuscis.*
Brown Horned Owl, with rufous and ash-coloured variegations, beneath whitish, with transverse brown lines.
Strix Virginiana. *S. corpore fusco rufo cinereoque lineato, subtus cinerascente striis transversis fuscis, remigibus rectricibusque fusco fasciatis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Bubo Virginianus. *Briss. orn.*
Virginian Eared Owl. *Edw. pl. 60. Lath. syn.*

This, which by some ornithologists, and even by Mr. Pennant, has been considered as a variety of the preceding species, is marked by so charac-

teristic a disposition of colours as to leave no doubt of its being truly distinct. It is a native of many parts of North America, and seems to have been first figured and accurately described by Edwards, from a living specimen then recently brought from Virginia. "It approaches, says Edwards, near in magnitude to the Greatest Horn or Eagle-Owl: the bigness of the head in this seems not at all inferior to that of a Cat: the wing, when closed, measures from the top to the ends of the quills full fifteen inches: the bill is black, the upper mandible hooked, and overhanging the nether, as in Eagles and Hawks, having no angle in them, but plain on its edges: it is covered with a skin in which are placed the nostrils, and that skin hid with a bristly kind of grey feathers that grow round the basis of the bill: the eyes are large, having circles round them, pretty broad, of a bright, shining gold-colour: the space round the eyes, which one may call the face, is of a light brown, confusedly mixed with orange-colour, gradually becoming dusky where it borders on the eyes: over the eyes it hath white strokes: the feathers that compose the horns begin just above the bill, where they are intermixed with a little white, but as they extend onwards beyond the head, they become of a red-brown, clouded with dusky, and tipped with black: the top of the head, neck, back, wings, and upper side of the tail are barred across with dusky bars of reddish: the greater wing-feathers and the tail are barred across with dusky bars of half an inch breadth, some a little

more, some less: the feathers between the back and wings are orange-coloured tipped with white: the fore part of the neck and breast are bright brown inclining to orange, which grows fainter on the sides: this brown part is spotted with pretty large dark spots, and intermixed between the spots with the same dusky colour: the middle of the breast, belly, thighs, and under side of the tail are white, or faint ash-colour, barred transversly with dusky lines pretty regularly: the inside of the wings coloured and variegated in the same manner: the legs and toes, almost to the ends, are covered with light ash-coloured feathers: the ends of the toes, and claws, of a dark horn-colour."

Like the Great European Horned Owl, this species varies occasionally in the cast of its colours, which are sometimes darker, and with fewer of the orange-ferruginous variegations in its plumage: the under parts are also of a clearer white, and more closely and distinctly barred with the transverse blackish lines in some specimens than in others. This bird is found in North America as high as Hudson's Bay, frequenting woody districts, and uttering, according to Mr. Pennant, "a most hideous noise in the woods, not unlike the hollowing of a Man; so that passengers, beguiled by it, often lose their way."

CEYLONESE HORNED OWL.

Strix Zeylonensis. *S. corpore rufo-fusco nigro striato, subtus lutescente, remigibus rectricibusque nigro albo rufescenteque striatis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Rufous-brown Horned Owl, with transverse black streaks, beneath subluteous, the wings and tail marked by black, white, and rufescent streaks.

Ceylonese Eared Owl. *Brown's Ill. Zool.*

This is described by Mr. Pennant from the work entitled Brown's Illustrations of Zoology, in which most of the figures were from drawings in the collection of Governor Loten. The length of this species is near two feet, and its weight two pounds nine ounces and three quarters: the bill is horn-coloured: the irides yellow: the upper parts of the bird of a pale reddish brown; the under parts yellowish white; each feather appearing to be streaked and barred with dusky black: the ears or horns are short and pointed: the prime quills and tail are barred with black, white, and pale red: legs naked to the knees: native of Ceylon, where it is called *Raia Allia.*

CHINESE HORNED OWL.

Strix Sinensis. *S. ferruginea nigro lineata, collo antico maculis subtrigonis nigris, pectore abdomineque albo nigroque fasciatis.*
Ferruginous Horned Owl, lineated with black, the fore part of the neck marked with subtrigonal black spots, the breast and belly with black and white bars.
Strix Sinensis. *S. fronte albo, corpore fusco-rufo lineis nigris undulatis, subtus rufo nigricante striato fasciis albis, remigibus secundariis fasciis quatuor nigricantibus. Lath. ind. orn.*
Hibou de la Chine. *Sonner. Voy. Ind.* 2. *p.* 185.

We owe the knowledge of this species to Monsieur Sonnerat, who informs us that its size is equal to that of the Strix Otus or Long-Eared Owl. The whole upper part of the head, body, and wings, is rufous-brown, undulated by fine black lines or streaks: on the wings are four transverse bands of pale rufous, with reddish-white spots: the forehead is white, the fore part of the neck pale rufous with triangular black spots: the breast, belly, and thighs of a deeper or tawny colour, each feather crossed by white bars, with a black or dark longitudinal streak: the bill and legs are black, and the latter, according to Monsieur Sonnerat's figure, appear to be naked.

COROMANDEL HORNED OWL.

Strix Coromanda. *S. griseo-rufescens, albido maculata, alis caudaque albido fasciatis; subtus ferruginea nigro undulata.*

Rufous-grey Horned Owl, with whitish spots; the wings and tail with whitish bands; the under parts of the bird ferruginous with black undulations.

Strix Coromanda. *S. corpore rufo-griseo rufescente-albo maculato, subtus pallide rubro lunulis nigris, remigibus rectricibusque fasciis rufo-albis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Le petit Hibou de la Côte de Coromandel. *Sonn. Voy. Ind. 2. p.* 185.

This species is also described by Sonnerat. Its size is said to be a third smaller than that of the Long-Eared Owl: the head and upper parts of the bird are of a rufous grey colour, with paler or whitish spots, which are smallest on the head and neck: the larger quill-feathers are of a deeper colour, but spotted, like the others; and the tail is of the same colour, crossed by three whitish bands: all the under parts of the bird are rufous or ferruginous, crossed or undulated by black bars: the legs are rufous, and covered with plumes; the bill and claws deep brown. It does not appear clear from Monsieur Sonnerat's description, whether this species belongs to the Horned division of owls or not; but a drawing in the collection of Sir Joseph Banks, quoted by Mr. Latham in his first Supplement, seems to determine the point; since it agrees perfectly in colours, and is represented with very large horns. In size however it greatly

exceeds that mentioned by Sonnerat, measuring twenty inches in length.

LONG-EARED OWL.

Strix Otus. *S. auriculata ferrugineo-flavescens, nigro griseoque varianta, pennis auricularibus nigro-fasciatis.*
Yellowish-ferruginous Horned Owl, with black and grey variegations, the ear-feathers barred with black.
Strix Otus. *S. capite auriculato pennis senis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Le Hibou, ou Moyen Duc. *Buff. ois.*
The Horn-Owl. *Will. orn. p.* 100.
Long-Eared Owl. *Penn. Brit. Zool. Lath. syn. Bewick's Brit. Birds. p.* 48.

The Long-Eared Owl in its general appearance and colours is very considerably, and even strikingly allied to the Strix Bubo or Great Horned Owl, but its size is far inferior; the measure attributed to it by Willughby being fourteen inches and a half in length. The Count de Buffon, who compares its size to that of a crow, states its measure at one foot, from the tip of the bill to that of the claws; the length of the tail at five or six inches, and the extent of its expanded wings at three feet. Its colours, as before observed, bear so near a resemblance to those of the Great Owl, that a separate description is almost unnecessary: the general cast however inclines more to ferruginous on the breast and under parts, with a mixture of white in front of the head and on the thighs. Mr. Pennant's description of the colours is as follows.

"The irides bright yellow: the bill black: the circle of feathers surrounding the eyes is white, tipped with reddish and dusky spots, and the part next the bill black: the breast and belly are of a dull yellow, marked with slender brown strokes pointing downwards: the thighs and vent-feathers of the same colour, but unspotted: the back and coverts of the wings are varied with deep brown and yellow: the quill-feathers of the same colour, but near the ends of the outmost is a broad bar of red: the tail is marked with dusky and reddish bars, but beneath appears ash-coloured: the horns or ears are about an inch long, and consist of six feathers, variegated with yellow and black: the feet are feathered down to the claws."

This bird is an admirer of woody and rocky solitudes, and is not observed to build a nest of its own, but contents itself with the deserted nest of a Magpie or Buzzard, and usually lays five eggs. The young are at first entirely covered with white down, and begin to acquire their colours at the expiration of about fifteen days.

In some parts of Italy is found a variety of this bird, which differs in being somewhat larger, and in having the plumage mixed or varied in a considerable degree with ash-colour; the bend of the wing, and the coverts white, and the tail marked with zigzag black lines.

The Long-Eared Owl is considered as a pretty general inhabitant of Europe, and though far less common in our own country than some other species, is yet of no very unfrequent occurrence.

In North America it is found to inhabit the woods at a distance from the sea-coast, and has been observed at Hudson's Bay, preying by night, with much clamour, and often approaching the dwellings of the inhabitants.

SHORT-EARED OWL.

Strix brachyotos. *S. auriculatâ ferrugineo-flavescens, fusco varia, pennis auricularibus angustis, cauda maculis subocellatis.*
Yellowish-ferruginous Horned Owl, varied with brown, the ear-feathers narrow, and the tail marked by subocellated spots.
Strix brachyotos. *S. auricularum penna brevi, corpore supra fusco pennis margine flavis, subtus pallide flavo longitudinaliter striato. Lin. Gmel.*
Short-Eared Owl. *Penn. Brit. Zool. edit. fol. t. B. 3. and t. B. 4. f. 2. edit. quart. p. 174. pl. 31. Bewick's Brit. Birds. p. 50.*
La Chouette, ou La Grande Cheveche.? *Buff. ois. 372. pl. 27?*

This species, confounded by Buffon and some others with a very different bird, appears to have been first correctly described by Mr. Pennant in the British Zoology. It is therefore highly proper to deliver the description in his own words.

"The length of the Short-Eared Owl is fourteen inches: extent three feet: the head small and hawk-like: the bill is dusky: weight fourteen ounces: the circle of feathers that immediately surrounds the eyes is black: the larger circle white, terminated with tawny and black: the feathers on

the head, back, and coverts of the wings, are brown, edged with pale dull yellow: the breast and belly of the same colour, marked with a few long narrow streaks of brown, pointing downwards: the thighs, legs, and toes are covered with plain yellow feathers: the quill-feathers are dusky, barred with red: the tail is of a very deep brown, adorned on each side the shaft of the four middle feathers with a yellow circle, which contains a brown spot: the tip of the tail is white. The horns of this species are very small, and each consists of only a single feather; these it can raise or depress at pleasure, and in a dead bird they are with difficulty discovered. This bird is scarcer than the former, (Long-Eared Owl;) both are solitary birds, avoiding inhabited places. These species may be called long-winged Owls; the wings when closed reaching beyond the end of the tail; whereas in the common kinds they fall short of it. This is a bird of passage, and has been observed to visit Lincolnshire the beginning of October, and to retire early in the spring; so probably, as it performs its migrations like the Woodcock, its summer retreat is *Norway*. During the day it lies hid in long old grass; when disturbed it seldom flies far, but will light, and sit looking at one, at which time the horns may be seen very distinctly. It has not been observed to perch on trees, like other Owls: it will also fly in search of prey in cloudy hazy weather. Farmers are fond of seeing these birds in their fields, as they clear them from mice. It is found frequently on the hill of *Hoy* in the *Orknies*, where it flies about

and preys by day, like a Hawk. I have also received this species from Lancashire, which is a hilly and wooded country; and my friends have also sent it from New England and Newfoundland."

The Count de Buffon, erroneously supposing a figure of this species in the folio edition of the British Zoology to be intended for a very different bird, expresses himself on the subject of that work in general, and of the description and figure of this species in particular, with a degree of indecorous criticism bordering on rude invective. He complains indeed with some degree of justice that the figures representing not only this bird, but the former, or Long-Eared Owl, are ill executed, and convey a wrong idea of the lengthened feathers or ears, which in these figures have a thick and fleshy, rather than feathery appearance; but the remaining part of his criticism must be allowed to recoil on himself, and is entirely owing to his not having perceived that the bird then first mentioned by Mr. Pennant was, in reality, a species before undistinguished by naturalists, or confounded with some other birds of this genus.

Mr. Pennant, in his "Literary Life," hints at this circumstance, and imputes the Count's freedom of expression to a comparison made in the British Zoology between the free-thinking Frenchman and our own illustrious countryman Ray, much to the advantage of the latter. Mr. Pennant also, in his Catalogue of the work entitled *Planches Enluminées*, published as a companion to the *Histoire*

Naturelle des Oiseaux of Buffon, retaliates, in his own peculiar vein of humour, on the Count de Buffon, for the palpable injustice and falsehood of his criticisms, and takes ample, but very polite revenge on his erring antagonist.

In the Arctic Zoology we are informed that "this bird occurs, with some very slight variations, in many parts of North America, and is even supposed to extend into South America. In Hudson's Bay it is called the Mouse-Hawk. It never flies, like other Owls, in search of prey, but sits quiet on the stump of a tree, watching the appearance of Mice. It breeds near the coast; makes its nest with dry grass, upon the ground; and migrates southward in Autumn."

Mr. Latham observes that this species is very common in the northern and woody parts of Siberia, often rushing blindly towards such fires as are lighted by night, and assaulting the persons near them. It is a very fierce and courageous bird, and an instance has been known of one which was shot springing up with great fury at the sportsman when endeavouring to secure it. Mr. Latham is inclined to suppose, from the difficulty of detecting the ear-plumes in dead specimens, that the bird described and figured by Edwards under the name of *Hawk Owl,* may be the same species. He also adds that the ear-feathers or horns are in reality composed of several feathers, and do not consist of one only on each side, as commonly supposed; and that their power of elevation is not great at any time.

It remains to be observed, that though the figure of this species in the folio edition of the British Zoology is but very indifferently executed, yet that given in the smaller editions is extremely good. In the Planches Enlumineés also, according to Mr. Pennant, this bird is tolerably well figured at plate 29, though erroneously supposed by many to represent the former species, and improperly inscribed *Moyen Duc, ou Hibou.* The figure also at least, if not the description, of the bird entitled *La Chouette* in the Histoire des Oiseaux, is supposed by Mr. Pennant to belong to the same species.

MARSH HORNED OWL.

Strix palustris. *S. albo griseo fuscoque varia, remigibus fusca maculato-fasciatis, torque fusco-maculato.*

Horned Owl with white, grey, and brown variegations, quills fasciated by brown spots, and collar spotted with brown.

Strix palustris. *S. capite aurito pennis sex, corpore albo griseo fuscoque vario, torque flavescente, maculis fusco-rufis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.* 2.

Size of a Crow: ear-plumes six in number on each side: legs hairy. Native of Pomerania and Thuringia, inhabiting peat marshes, among the high grass, and feeding on field-mice, &c.

AMERICAN HORNED OWL.

Strix Americana. *S. capite & corpore supra cinereo, subtus ferrugineo, uropygio albo nigro maculato, alis caudaque ferrugineis lineis transversis cinereis et griseis. Lin. Gmel.*
Owl with head and body cinereous above, ferruginous beneath; rump white spotted with black; wings and tail ferruginous, with transverse lines of deep and light grey.
American Eared Owl. *Lath. syn.*

Size rather larger than that of the Strix Otus: head and upper parts cinereous; under parts ferruginous: rump and vent white, spotted with black: quills and tail ferruginous, transversly barred with deep and light grey: irides and legs yellow: supposed by Buffon to be a variety of Strix Otus, differing in the cast of its colours.

MEXICAN HORNED OWL.

Strix Mexicana. *S. corpore ex fusco et nigro vario. Lin Gmel.*
Owl with body variegated with black and brown.
Mexican Eared Owl. *Lath. syn.*

This, which seems only known from the very brief description of Ray, is said to be a native of Mexico, where it is called by the name of *Tecolotl;* its colour is a variegation of black and brown.

RED HORNED OWL.

Strix Asio. *S. capite aurito, corpore supra ferrugineo, subtus cinereo, alis punctis quinque albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Horned Owl with the body ferruginous above, cinereous beneath, and five white spots on the wings.
Scops Caroliniensis. *Briss. ois.*
Little Owl. *Catesb. Carol.* 1. *pl.* 7.
Red Eared Owl. *Penn. Arct. Zool. Lath. syn.*

NATIVE of North America, and thus described by Mr. Pennant in his Arctic Zoology. "Owl with yellow irides: horns, head, back, and wings, of a pleasant tawny red, streaked with black: the scapulars marked with large white spots: primaries barred with black, red, and white: breast pale tawny, marked with oblong black spots: tail red, barred with dusky: feet covered with feathers to the claws: length ten inches and a half: inhabits New York, and as low as the Carolinas: lives in the woods near the coast." The female is said to differ in being brown instead of ferruginous.

MOTTLED HORNED OWL.

Strix nævia. *S. capite aurito, corpore griseo ferrugineoque vario, tectricibus albo maculatis, pectore nigro punctato.*
Grey Horned Owl, with ferruginous variegations, coverts spotted with white, and breast speckled with black.
Strix nævia. *S. corpore griseo, subtus pallidiore, utrinque maculis ferrugineis et nigris, capitis pectorisque pennis nigro punctatis. Lin. Gmel.*
Mottled Owl. *Penn. Arct. Zool.*

Native of North America. Thus described in the Arctic Zoology. "Owl with the face white, spotted with brown: head, wings, and upper parts of the body mottled with ash-colour and pale red: the scapulars marked with great white spots; as are the coverts of the wings: the primaries with black and pale ferruginous: breast and belly whitish, varied with ragged stripes pointing downwards: toes feathered to the claws: length eleven inches: inhabits the province of New York: breeds in May, and continues in the country the whole year."

Mr. Latham describes the plumage of this bird as of a grey colour mottled with ferruginous and black; the shaft of each feather being black, with three or four waved bars of the same on each side: the under parts are paler than the upper; the measure of the bird is eight inches and a half, and the horns an inch or more in length.

CARNIOLIC HORNED OWL.

Strix Carniolica. *S. corpore ex cinereo albicante, maculis striisque transversis nigricantibus variegato. Scopoli ann.* 1. *p.* 19. *Lin. Gmel.*

Whitish-grey Horned Owl, variegated with transverse blackish spots and streaks.

Carniolic Eared Owl. *Lath. syn.*

This species is described by Scopoli, who informs us that it is of a pale or whitish ash-colour, varied with blackish spots and transverse streaks: the wing and tail-feathers are spotted internally with white: the size of the bird nearly equals that of the Strix passerina of Linnæus, and the ears or horns are scarcely observable except in the living bird: the irides are yellow.

BRASILIAN HORNED OWL.

Strix Brasiliana. *S. auriculata subfusca, albo maculata, subtus alba subfusco maculata, cauda albo undulata.*

Brownish Horned Owl, spotted with white, beneath white spotted with brown, the tail waved with white.

Strix Brasiliana. *Lin. Gmel.*

Brasilian Noctua called *Cabure* by Marcgrave. *Will. orn. p.* 107.

Described by Marcgrave in his History of Brasil, and thus translated by Willughby. "It's about the bigness of a Throstle: hath a round

head, a short, hooked, yellowish bill; two nostrils; fair, great, round, yellow eyes, with a black pupil: under the eyes and on each side the bill it hath many long dusky hairs: the legs are short, wholly clothed with feathers, yellow, as are also the feet, which are cloven into four toes, standing after the usual manner, armed with semicircular, crooked, sharp talons: the tail broad, nigh the rise whereof the wings end: in the head, back, wings, and tail, it is of a dilute umber colour, and variegated in the head and neck with very small, and in the wings with greater white spots: the tail is waved with white: the breast and lower belly are white, and variegated with spots of a dilute umber colour. It is easily made tame. It can so turn about its neck that the tip of the beak shall exactly point at the middle of the back. It plays with men like an Ape, making many mowes and antic mimical faces, and snapping with its bill. Besides, it can set up the feathers of its head that represent horns or ears. It lives upon raw flesh."

SCOPS HORNED OWL.

Strix Scops. *S. auriculata griseo-fusca, subferruginco nigroque varia, subtus cinerea nigro varia.*
Grey-brown Horned Owl, with subferruginous and black variegations, beneath grey with black variegations.
Strix Scops. *S. capite auriculato penna solitaria. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Scops ou Petit Duc. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 353. *pl.* 24.
Le Petit Duc. *Pl. Enl.* 436.
Scops Eared Owl. *Lath. syn.*

This is a species of uncommon elegance, and of very small size, measuring only about seven inches and a quarter in length*. The general disposition of its colours is similar to that of the Eagle Owl, but with a greater mixture of grey, which predominates on the breast and belly of the bird: it varies however considerably in the cast of its colours according to various circumstances of age and sex, and when young is said to be wholly grey: the irides are also said to be pale yellow in the young, and deep yellow, or even hazel in the old birds: the legs are covered to the toes with speckled grey and brown plumes: the auricular plumes, which are erroneously stated by Linnæus (who has even founded his specific character of the bird on that very circumstance) as only one on each side, are in reality composed of six on each side, accord-

* The measure assigned by Aldrovandus is nine inches, and he adds that the bird is smaller than a pigeon, but larger than a thrush.

ing to the more accurate observations of Spallanzani, who bred up some of these birds, and who professes to wonder that Aldrovandus, Linnæus, and Buffon should all agree in stating them as each consisting of a single plume. It is impossible, he adds, to suppose that either of those great naturalists had ever examined a single specimen of the bird. The mistake however, in all probability, originated in Aldrovandus, and was from him copied by other writers. It is observed by Aldrovandus that in the dead bird the above-mentioned feathers are difficultly discernible.

The Scops is a native of the warmer parts of Europe, and is of a migratory nature. In France it is said to arrive and depart at the same time with the Swallow. At particular times great flights arrive, and wage a kind of war against the field-mice, in years when those animals are unusually numerous. In Italy its favourite residence, according to Spallanzani, is in gently rising, wooded regions, but not among lofty mountains; and it lives principally on insects and earth-worms. During the day it continues in the shade of the woods, perched on a branch, and continuing motionless, with its ears or tufts erected: in this state it will permit a very near approach, and then only retires to hide itself afresh among the branches. Towards the dusk of the evening it emerges from its retreat, perches on a tree in some open spot, and begins its cry, which consists of a quick and often repeated whistle, somewhat like the word *Chivi*, for which reason it is called in some places

by the name of *Chivini*. It constructs no nest, but deposits its eggs, to the number of five or six, in the hollows of trees. In Italy the young are full fledged by the beginning of July, when they follow their parents during the night for food, till they are able to feed themselves, and to pursue grasshoppers, beetles, and other insects. When this period commences, they leave their parents, and each lives separately. They remain in Italy till October, at which time they become, especially the old ones, very fat, and if it were not for a peculiar and disagreeable smell, would be a delicate food. The first brood of these birds taken by Spallanzani were so young as to be scarcely covered with down, but in about a month were become so far trained as to follow very readily: they fed on any kind of flesh, chopped small, and when hungry, flew after their master, and alighted on his hand, in order to receive their food; and this not only during the twilight, but even at mid-day. Another brood, which was reared beneath a shrub in the garden, which sheltered the young birds from the sun during the day-time, soon became equally tame; flying to, and following their master when called; settling on his shoulders to receive their allowance. After their evening meal, they flew about the neighbourhood during the night, perching on the adjoining trees, and returning by morning to their habitation in the garden. They continued thus attached for about a month, regularly wandering by night, and returning in the morning. One day however, on missing two

of the number, Spallanzani, on calling them, received their answer from a neighbouring elm, at about three hundred feet from the garden: they refused however to descend; departed in the evening, and returned to the elm the next morning. Two days having elapsed since they had been fed by the hand of Spallanzani, he resolved to sacrifice one of the birds to his curiosity, and bringing it down by a gun, found, on examining the stomach, the remains of grasshoppers. That it was one of the birds which had been tamed was beyond a doubt, since each had been marked by red silk tied round the leg, and which the bird examined had on. The flight of these two was soon succeeded by that of the rest, and though the time of their emigration from the country was still far distant, yet they never more returned to their former spot, having found the means of providing subsistence for themselves. Such, adds the philosopher, is the general conduct of almost all wild animals. When taken very young, they become, by constant attention, familiar, and, to a certain degree, affectionate; but this only continues so long as their dependance is necessary for their support. After that period is elapsed, their familiarity gradually subsides; their confidence diminishes, and at length they make their escape, and seem to fly mankind as the general tyrant of Nature.

BAKKAMOENA HORNED OWL.

Strix Bakkamoena. *S. cinerea dorso fusco, pectore gilvo maculis sagittatis nigris, remigibus albo nigroque fasciatis.*

Ash-coloured Horned Owl, with brown back, buff-coloured breast with arrow-shaped black spots, and wing-feathers barred with black and white.

Otus Bakkamoena. *Penn. Ind. Zool.*

Strix Indica. *S. dorso obscuro, tectricibus alarum griseis nigro lineatis, pectore bubalino maculis exiguis sagittatis nigris. Lin. Gmel.*

Thus described in the Indian Zoology of Mr. Pennant. "The bill is dusky, surrounded with long bristles: the circle of feathers round the eyes is of a very pale ash-colour: the external circle of a yellowish brown: the irides scarlet: the horns take their origin from the base of the bill, and point to the sides of the head: on their inner side they are dusky, on their exterior white: the head is of a deepish ash-colour: the back dusky: coverts of the wings grey, marked with narrow lines of black pointing downwards: quill-feathers regularly barred with black and white: the breast buff-coloured, marked with small sagittal black spots: the legs feathered half way down: the naked part of a reddish yellow. This elegant species is found in Ceylon; is there called *Bakkamoena*, and is a scarce species even in that island."

It is necessary to observe, that, by an oversight in the letter-press of the quarto edition of the Indian Zoology, this bird is said to be represented

in its natural size, without considering that the plate had been reduced from that in the folio edition. Its length, according to the folio plate, appears to be about seven inches.

WHITE-FRONTED HORNED OWL.

Strix albifrons. *S. ferrugineo-fusca, subtus pallidior, fronte alba, remigibus albo nigroque fasciatis.*

Ferruginous-brown Horned Owl, paler beneath, with the forehead white, and remiges barred with black and white. *Naturalist's Miscellany, pl.* 171.

Length from six to eight inches: horns scarcely perceptible: lower part of the belly and thighs white: legs feathered to the toes. Supposed to be a native of Canada.

YAIKAN HORNED OWL.

Strix deminuta. *S. rufo nigro albidoque varia coloribus nebulosis.*

Horned Owl, varied with black, whitish, and rufous, the colours clouded.

Strix deminuta. *S. minor, corpore rufo.* *Pall. it.* 2. *p.* 707.

Yaikan Eared Owl. *Lath. syn.*

An elegant and diminutive species of Horned Owl; described by Dr. Pallas, who informs us that its size is smaller than that of the Scops, and that it bears so near a resemblance to the Strix Bubo or Great Horned Owl in point of general ap-

pearance that one description might serve for both, except that in this small species the colours are less decided or distinct. It inhabits the woody and mountainous parts of Siberia, about the river Yaik. and the Ural chain.

SIBERIAN HORNED OWL.

Strix Pulchella. *S. grisea, fusco ferrugineo alboque varia. Lin. Gmel.*

Grey Horned Owl, with brown ferruginous and white variegations.

Strix pulchella. *S. capite auriculato, corpore cinereo, punctis maculis striisque nigris variato, remigibus albo maculatis. Vivar. Natur.* 1. *t.* 22.

Strix pulchella. *S. minima, capite aurito, corpore pulveratim cinereo-undulato subtus albido, alis fasciato-pulveratis, litura ad nares alba. Lath. ind. orn.*

Siberian Eared Owl. *Lath. syn.*

The smallest of all the Owl tribe yet known: length six inches; in which respect however it seems to vary in different individuals; that mentioned in the Petersburgh Transactions measuring nine inches. The best description that can be given of this bird is to compare the plumage to that of the Wryneck, which it extremely resembles both in colour and disposition of spots, except that the shoulders are more ferruginous, and the breast exhibits a greyer cast, with longitudinal and transverse black streaks and points: on the head are two ear-shaped crests, as in others of this

section: the legs are feathered to the feet, which are bare, and of a pale flesh-colour: the bill is brown, and the irides yellow. This most elegant species is a native of Russia and Siberia. A specimen in the Leverian Museum is said to have been taken at Gibraltar.

SMOOTH-HEADED OR HORNLESS OWLS.

SNOWY OWL.

Strix Nyctea. *S. nivea nigro maculata, rostro nigro, iridibus flavis.*
Snow-white Owl spotted with black, with black bill and yellow irides.
Strix Nyctea. *S. capite lævi, corpore albido maculis lunatis distantibus fuscis. Lin.*
Great White Owl. *Edwards pl.* 61.
Le Harfang. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 458.

This highly elegant species, though before known to North-American travellers, and by drawings which had been made from it, appears to have been first distinctly described by Edwards, who states that "it comes near the first magnitude of this genus, and is the most beautiful of all the species, on account of its exceeding snowy whiteness: its head is less in proportion than in other owls; the wing, when closed, is sixteen inches from the shoulder to the tip of the longest quill, which may give a judgment of its size. It is said

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY BOMBAY BRANCH

SNOWY OWL.

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to be a diurnal bird; it preys on white partridges, and continues in Hudson's Bay all the year. The bill is hooked, like a Hawk's, having no angles on the sides, is all black with wide nostrils; the bill almost covered with stiff feathers like hairs, planted round its basis, and reflected forward: the eyes are encompassed with bright yellow irides: the head, whole body, wings, and tail, are of a pure white colour: the top of the head is spotted with small dirty brown spots: the upper part of the back is painted with transverse lines of dusky brown, as are the sides under the wings, but with smaller and fainter lines: the quills on their outer webs are spotted with dusky, and some few little dusky spots on the covert-feathers of the wings: the covert-feathers withinside of the wings are purely white: the lower part of the back is spotless: the middle feathers of the tail on the upper side have a few spots on each side the shafts of the feathers: the legs and feet are covered with white feathers: the claws are long, strong, and of a black colour, very sharp pointed. Another bird of this kind came to my hands together with this, which differed only in that it had more and darker spots."

A beautiful variety of this bird existed in the Leverian Museum: it was every where, except on the face, and legs, most elegantly spotted with numerous transverse lunated brown marks, running into short interrupted bands over the neck and on all the under parts of the bird. This variety is figured in the second volume of the Naturalist's

Miscellany, and seems to differ but litttle from the specimen represented in the *Planches Enluminées*, and copied into the present work, except in being more uniformly barred or striped.

It is observed by Mr. Pennant, in his Arctic Zoology, that this species varies greatly in weight, from three pounds to one and a half. " It inhabits the coldest parts of America, even as high as the remote mountains in the icy centre of Greenland, from which, in intense cold, it migrates to the shores. It adds horror even to that country, by its hideous cries, resembling those of a man in deep distress. It is rare in the temperate parts of America, and seldom strays as low as Pennsylvania and Louisiana: is very common in Hudson's Bay, Norway, and Lapland. It fears not the rigour of the season, but bears the cold of the northern regions the whole year. It flies by day, and is scarcely to be distinguished from the snow: it flies pretty swiftly, and falls perpendicularly on its prey: feeds on the white grous, and probably on hares; for to the last circumstance it owes its Swedish name *Harfang*. It preys also on mice and carrion, and in Hudson's Bay is almost domestic, harbouring in places near the tents of the Indians. In Russia it is scarce; but grows more common on the Uralian mountains, and all over the north and east of Siberia, and in its Asiatic Empire, even in the hot latitude of Astrakan: is very numerous in Kamtschatka."

WAPACUTHU OWL.

Strix Wapacuthu. *S. alba, rufo nigroque maculata, subtus albida lineis numerosis transversis rufis.*

White Owl, with rufous and black spots, beneath whitish with numerous transverse rufous lines.

Strix Wapacuthu. *S. capite lævi, corpore albo pallide rubro nigroque maculato, subtus albido lineis numerosis rufescentibus. Lath. ind. orn.*

Wapacuthu Owl. *Penn. Arct. Zool. Lath. syn.*

The Wapacuthu Owl is a native of North America, and is thus described by Mr. Pennant in the Arctic Zoology. "Owl with glossy black bill, and claws much incurvated: base of the bill beset with strong bristles; irides bright yellow: space between the eyes, cheeks, and throat white: the ends of the feathers on the head black: scapulars, and all the coverts of the wings, white, elegantly barred with pale-red and black: back and coverts of the tail white, mixed with a few dusky spots: breast and belly dirty white, crossed with innumerable reddish lines: vent white: legs feathered to the toes, which are covered with hairs: weight five pounds: length two feet. Inhabits the woods about Hudson's Bay: makes its nest on the moss, on the dry ground: the young are hatched in May, fly in June, and are white for a long time after: feeds on mice and small birds: called by the Indians *Wapacuthu*, or spotted owl. The Europeans settled in the Bay reckon it a very delicate food."

FULIGINOUS OWL.

Strix fuliginosa. *S. cinereo-fuliginosa, nigro irrorata, subtus nebulosa, pennis circum oculos concentrice lineatis. Museum Leverianum, No. 6. p. 23.*

Dusky-cinereous Owl, freckled with black; clouded beneath; with the feathers round the eyes marked with numerous concentric circles. *Museum Leverianum, No. 3. p. 24.*

Strix cinerea. *S. cinereo-fuliginosa, nigro transversim lineata, subtus albido cinereoque nebulosa, regione periopthalmica circulis concentricis nigris. Lath. ind. orn.*

Cinereous Owl. *Lath. syn.*

Sooty Owl. *Penn. Arct. Zool.*

Size equal or nearly equal to that of the Strix Nyctea or Snowy Owl: length two feet: extent of wings four feet: tail rather long: legs feathered to the claws: colour on all parts sooty grey, with a cast of ferruginous on the wings and tail: the face is barred with several concentric deep-brown circles: the wings are barred with ash-colour and brown, and the thighs elegantly crossed with linear streaks of the same colours: on the shoulders and wing-coverts are several blackish, brown, and whitish spots and freckles; the breast is varied with large spots or blotches of brown, and the tail is crossed by several irregular whitish and dusky bars: the irides are said to be orange-coloured: the bill is pale horn-colour, and the claws black.

This bird is a native of North America, and, according to Mr. Pennant, "inhabits Hudson's Bay the whole year: flies in pairs: feeds on mice and hares: flies very low, yet seizes its prey with

such force, that, in winter, it will sink into the snow a foot deep, and with great ease will fly away with the American* Hare alive in its talons. It makes its nest in a pine-tree, in the middle of May, with a few sticks, lined with feathers: and lays two eggs, spotted with a darkish colour: the young take wing in the end of July."

BARRED OWL.

Strix nebulosa. *S. fusco albidoque transversim fasciata, abdomine albo maculis oblongis ferrugineis. Vivarium Naturæ. vol.* 1. *t.* 25.

Owl transversly fasciated with brown and whitish, the belly white with oblong ferruginous spots. *Naturalist's Miscellany. vol.* 1. *pl.* 25.

Strix nebulosa. *S. capite lævi, corpore fusco albido undulatim striato, remige sexto longiore apice nigricante. Lath. ind. orn.*

Barred Owl. *Penn. Arct. Zool. Lath. syn.*

This is also a native of North America, and is a large species, though somewhat inferior in size to the preceding: the length of a specimen described by Dr. R. Forster several years ago in the Philosophical Transactions was sixteen inches; its breadth four feet, and its weight three pounds. A specimen however in the possession of Mr. Latham measured twenty-one inches in length; and of

* Penn. Quadr. No. 38.

such extent, at least, was an elegant specimen preserved in the Leverian Museum, and figured in the first volume of the Naturalist's Miscellany. The whole bird, on the upper parts, is beautifully barred with numerous brown bands on a yellowish-white ground-colour; or, in other words, it might be said to be barred with white on a brown ground-colour, the spaces between the two colours being nearly equal, except on the tail and larger quill-feathers, where the brown bars are rather broader than the white ones: the feathers surrounding the eyes are whitish, with numerous concentric circles, formed by interrupted linear brown streaks: the whole under parts of the bird are yellowish white, with longitudinal or descending brown spots: the thighs and legs are plain or unspotted, and feathered down to the claws: the bill is pale horn-colour, and the irides yellow. This species inhabits Hudson's Bay, and is said to prey, like the preceding, on Hares, Grous, Mice, &c.

AUSTRIAN OWL.

Strix Austriaca. *S. capite lævi, corpore albido fuscoque variegato, regione periophthalmica albida. Lath. ind. orn.*
Owl with whitish and brown variegations, and the spaces round the eyes whitish.
Austrian Owl. *Lath. syn.*
Strix sylvestris. *Scopoli. Ann.* 1. *No.* 13.

First described by Scopoli: size of a Cock: bill yellowish: irides blueish. Native of Carniola: perhaps the same with a species mentioned by Kramer in his Elenchus Animalium Austriæ. p. 325.

AUSTRIAN WHITE OWL.

Strix alba. *S. capite lævi, corpore rufo griscoque vario subtus albo, regione periophthalmica margine rufo, rectricibus apice albis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Owl with rufous and grey variegations, beneath white; the spaces round the eyes edged by a rufous margin, and the tail white at the tip.
Strix alba. *Scopoli. Ann.* 1. *No.* 14.
Austrian White Owl. *Lath. syn.*

Described by Scopoli: nearly the size of a Hen: bill white: circle of the face encompassed with an elegant rufous margin: tail tipped with white. Native of Carniola.

SPECTACLE OWL.

Strix perspicillata. *S. ferruginea capite colloque albis, oculis ferrugineo cinctis, abdomine gilvo.*

Ferruginous Owl, with white head and neck, eyes surrounded with ferruginous, and buff-coloured abdomen.

Strix perspicillata. *S. capite lævi tomentoso albo, regione periophthalmica gula corpore supra fasciaque pectoris rubro-fuscis, abdomine rufo-albo. Lath. ind. orn.*

Spectacle Owl. *Lath. syn.*

This, which is a highly elegant species, seems to have been first described by Mr. Latham from a specimen in the Leverian Museum. In size it nearly approaches the Fuliginous Owl, measuring more than twenty inches in length, but is of a more slender shape: its colour is a fine deep ferruginous brown above, crossed by numerous black variegations or streaks, and beneath, from the breast, of a plain tawny buff-colour: the brown colour of the upper parts surrounds the breast, forming a very broad zone across that part: the head is milk-white, but the eyes are each imbedded in a broad surrounding zone of brown, uniting above the bill, which is of a pale yellow colour: the legs are feathered to the claws with fine plumes of similar colour to those of the abdomen. The shape or habit of this bird somewhat approaches to that of the Hawk-Owl, having rather a small head in proportion, and a somewhat lengthened tail. It is a native of South America. In the elegant work of Monsieur Levaillant a specimen

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SPECTACLE OWL.

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of this bird is described and figured, differing in having the head brown, and the throat white, the latter colour ascending over the bill, and curving in the form of a pair of crescents or brows over each eye.

MASKED OWL.

Strix personata. *S. alba, facie nigra, alis subferrugineis.*
White Owl, with black face, and subferruginous wings.
Strix personata. *La Chouette masquée. Lin ornith. 2. p.* 192.
La Chouette a masque noir. *Levaill. ois. pl.* 44.

This bird, which is described and figured by Monsieur Levaillant, is said to be about the size of the common brown or Wood Owl: the wings and tail are of an elegant pale subferruginous brown, the shoulders spotted with white, and the whole edge of the wing of the same colour; the larger quills being barred or marked with rather large blackish spots: the head, neck, scapulars, and whole under parts are milk-white: the eyes are imbedded in a pair of very large, round, black patches or spaces: beneath the bill are a few small longitudinal black spots: the bill is blackish, and the irides are represented of a yellow colour: the legs are covered to the claws with fine milk-white plumes: the tail is short, but the wings do not reach to its tip. The specimen described by Monsieur Levaillant belonged to the collection of

the late Monsieur Dorci, and was said to have been brought from Cayenne. Levaillant supposes it to be a young bird, and that its plumage in a more advanced state might perhaps be somewhat different; but does not seem to think it a variety of the preceding species. The size of the specimen is not particularized by Levaillant, but if his plate be intended to shew the bird in its natural dimensions, it appears to be of the same size with the Strix passerina. Monsieur Daudin however, as above observed, compares it to a large species. After all, it is perhaps not very improbable that it may be a variety of the Strix perspicillata.

WHITE-BROWED OWL.

Strix superciliosa. *S. ferruginea, fascia utrinque super descendente alba.*
Ferruginous Owl, with a broad descending superciliary white band on each side.
La Chouette à collier. *Levaill. ois. pl. 42.*
Strix torquata. *Chouette à collier. Daudin. ornith. 2. p. 193.*

Size of the Strix Otus or Long-eared Owl: colour ferruginous brown, with a few white spots on the wing-coverts, edges of the shorter quills, and tips of the tail feathers: over each eye a stripe of lengthened white feathers, curving slightly down the sides of the neck: under parts whitish, tinctured with grey-brown on the belly, where the feathers are crossed with numerous fine dusky

lines: thighs marked with small, oblong, blackish dashes: legs feathered to the toes, which are rather slender: bill and irides yellow. Native of Cayenne.

ERMINE OWL.

Strix Erminea. *S. alba, alis maculis parvis distantibus nigris, cauda brevi.*

White Owl, with the wings marked by small distant white spots, and short tail.

Strix candida. *S. capite lævi, corpore albo maculis alarum distantibus nigris. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*

La Chouette blanche. *Levaill. ois. pl. 45.*

Ermine Owl. *Lath. suppl. 2.*

Described and figured by Levaillant, from a preserved specimen which he saw in a collection at Amsterdam. Its size is smaller than that of the Strix Nyctea, and its shape less elegant: the head large, the tail short, and the wings surpassing it in length: colour of the whole bird snow-white, with a very few small black spots near the shoulders, at the tips of the wing-coverts, and at those of the quills: bill black: irides hazel: legs thickly feathered to the claws. Native place unknown. This bird is by Monsieur Levaillant considered as distinct from the Strix Nyctea; yet when we consider how very easily the proportions of a bird may be altered by the manner of preparing it, the comparatively larger size of the head in this specimen, and the greater apparent length of the wings, will

afford, perhaps, but slight ground for supposing it to constitute a new species. As this point however must remain undetermined till other specimens have been examined, I have placed it under a separate article, after the example of Mr. Latham.

AUSTRIAN RUFOUS OWL.

Strix Noctua. *S. subrufa, maculis longitudinalibus fuscis, iridibus flavis.*
Subrufous Owl, with longitudinal brown spots, and yellow irides.
Strix Noctua. *S. capite lævi, iridibus flavis, corpore pallide rufo maculis longitudinalibus fuscis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Austrian rufous Owl. *Lath. syn.*

DESCRIBED by Scopoli: size of a pigeon: native of Carniola, inhabiting the woods of Idria.

AUSTRIAN FERRUGINOUS OWL.

Strix rufa. *S. iridibus cærulescentibus, corpore ferrugineo fusco maculato. Lin. Gmel.*
Owl with blueish irides, and ferruginous body spotted with brown.
Strix rufa. *Scopoli. ann.* 1. *p.* 22.
Ferruginous Austrian Owl. *Lath. syn.*

SIZE of the immediately preceding, and inhabiting the same woods of the same region.

WOOD OWL.

Strix sylvatica. *S. ferrugineo seu griseo-fusca nigro varia, tectricibus albo maculatis, oculis glaucis.*
Ferruginous-brown or Grey-brown Owl, with the wing-coverts spotted with white, and glaucous eyes.
Strix Stridula? *S. capite lævi, corpore ferrugineo, remige tertio longiore. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Le Chathuant. *Buff. ois.*
Strix Aldrovandi. *Raii. syn. p.* 25.
Common Brown or Ivy Owl. *Will. orn.*
Braune, oder stock Eule. *Frisch t.* 96.
Gelblicke oder brand Eule. *Frisch t.* 95.
Tawny Owl. *Penn. Brit. Zool. edit. fol.*
Brown Owl. *Albin* 1. *pl.* 9.
Tawny Owl. *Lath. syn.*
Strix Ulula? *S. capite lævi, corpore supra fusco albo maculato, rectricibus fasciis linearibus albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Great Brown Owl. *Albin* 3. *pl.* 7.
Grey Owl. *Will. orn.*
Brown Owl. *Penn. Brit. Zool. edit. fol.*
Strix Aluco? *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
La Hulote? *Briss. av.* 1. *p.* 507.

It will be perceived that I have given to the present species, which is a very common inhabitant of our own country, a name different from those by which it has been distinguished by Mr. Pennant. A sufficient reason for this change is, that the *Brown Owl* and *Tawny Owl* of Mr. Pennant are now pretty well understood to be no other than the male and female of the same species, differing merely in the cast of their colours, the one having more of a grey, and the other of a ferruginous tinge

intermixed with the brown ground-colour of their plumage. The separation of the English Wood Owl into two supposed species has been the cause of much confusion in ornithological works; and as the bird seems to be the only British species which is more particularly found in woody than in other situations, the title of *Wood Owl* seems best adapted to its nature. In size this species equals, and perhaps sometimes surpasses the common White or Barn-Owl, and its colour is an elegant variegation of black streaks, spots, and freckles, disposed on a brown ground-colour, which, as before mentioned, inclines in some individuals to a tawny or ferruginous, and in others to a grey cast: on the wing-coverts are several spots or patches of white, so disposed as generally to form three rows of spots down the coverts: the ruff or circle of rising plumes surrounding the face are also largely intermixed with white, and the lower part of the belly, with the thighs, are of this colour: the tail is varied with black bars and markings on the brown or tawny ground-colour: the irides are of a deep glaucous blue colour: the larger wing-feathers are barred or crossed by several dusky-brown bands: the legs are covered to the claws with whitish downy feathers, and the bill is brown. This bird, as before observed, chiefly frequents woods, and deposits its eggs, generally four in number, of an elliptic form, and of a whitish colour, in the hollows of trees. Mr. Pennant informs us that the young birds will feed on any dead thing, whereas those of the white or Barn Owl must have

a constant supply of fresh meat. With respect to the general manners of the Wood Owl, Mr. Pennant observes that by night these birds are very clamorous; and that when they hoot, their throats are greatly inflated: "in the dusk they approach our dwellings, and will frequently enter pigeon-houses, and make great havock in them. They destroy numbers of little leverets, as appears by the legs frequently found in their holes: they also kill abundance of moles, and skin them with as much dexterity as a cook does a rabbet."

ALUCO OWL.

Strix Aluco. *S. cinereo-ferruginea nigro alboque maculata, subtus albida nigro varia, oculis fuscis.*
Cinereo-ferruginous Owl, with black and white spots, beneath whitish with black variegations, and brown eyes.
Strix Aluco. *S. capite lævi, corpore ferrugineo, iridibus atris, remigibus primoribus serratis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Strix cinerea? *Raii. syn.*
La Hulotte. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 441.
Strix Aluco. *Lath. ind. orn.* Aluco Owl. *Lath. syn.*
Brown Owl? *Penn. Brit. Zool.*

This, says Buffon, may be termed the Black Owl, and is larger than the rest of the common European Owls, measuring near fifteen inches from the tip of the bill to the claws: the head is large and round; the face sunk as it were in the plumage; the eyes, which are of a blackish or deep brown colour, are buried in greyish ragged feathers, and

the beak is of a yellowish or greenish-white: the upper part of the body is of a deep iron-grey, mottled with black and whitish spots; the under parts white, with longitudinal and transverse black bars: the tail measures rather more than six inches in length, and is crossed with blackish bars: the wings extend a little beyond its tip, and when expanded measure three feet: the legs are covered to the claws with white feathers speckled with black. The Aluco is an inhabitant of the middle parts of Europe, residing in woods, breeding in hollow trees, and laying four large, round, grey eggs. By night it emerges from its retreats, in order to prey on small birds, field-mice, &c. and in the winter season sometimes approaches houses.

The descriptions given by Monsieur Daudin in his ornithology, and by Monsieur Virey in Sonnini's edition of Buffon, agree in giving a rufous or ferruginous cast to the whole bird, paler on the under parts. This is not observed by Buffon, nor does it appear in the figure engraved in the Planches Enlumineés, where the wing-coverts are evidently striped longitudinally with large white spots, nearly as in the Brown Owl of Pennant. Monsieur Virey observes, that in the female and younger birds the abdomen is whitish; and such, perhaps, may be the specimen figured in the Planches Enlumineés.

In attending to the synonyms prefixed to this and the preceding bird, the reader will readily perceive the difficulty of composing short specific characters, sufficiently precise to afford a real test of the species intended. Perhaps, after all, the

Strix Aluco may be the same with the immediately preceding.

ORIENTAL OWL.

Strix Orientalis. *S. castanea ferrugineo varia, collo albo nigroque maculato, subtus alba lineis transversis fuscis.*

Chesnut Owl varied with ferruginous, the neck spotted with black and white; the under parts white with dusky transverse lines.

Strix Sinensis. *S. capite lævi, corpore supra castaneo ferrugineo vario, gula alba, abdomine lineis transversis obscuris. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.* 2.

NATIVE of China: length seventeen inches: legs feathered to the toes, and barred like the abdomen.

UNDULATED OWL.

Strix undulata. *S. capite lævi, corpore fusco-rufo, abdomine albo undulato, tectricibus alarum remigibusque albo marginatis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.* 2.

Rufous-brown Owl, with the abdomen undulated with white, and the coverts and wing-feathers edged with white.

Undulated Owl. *Lath. suppl.* 2. *addend.*

DESCRIBED by Mr. Latham in his second supplement. The general colour on the upper parts resembles that of the Grey or Brown Owl: length

twelve inches; legs yellow; toes bare. Native of Norfolk Island in the Southern Ocean.

BARN OWL.

Strix flammea. *S. subfulva griseo-varia, scapis pennarum albo nigroque maculatis, subtus alba, oculis glaucis.*

Subfulvous Owl, with grey variegations, black and white spots down the shafts of the feathers, white breast and abdomen, and glaucous eyes.

Strix flammea. *S. capite lævi, corpore luteo punctis albis, subtus albido punctis nigricantibus. Lath. ind. orn.*

Common Barn or White Owl. *Will. orn.*

L'Effraie, ou Le Fresaie. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 440.

White Owl. *Penn. Brit. Zool. Lath. syn.*

A most beautiful species, though, from the frequency of its appearance, but little attended to. The head and upper parts of the bird are of a fine pale orange-colour, slightly marked by small scattered chesnut-coloured spots: the feathers of the upper parts of the back and the wing-coverts are grey towards their tips, finely powdered with blackish transverse specks; while down the shaft of each runs a short series of alternate black and white oblong spots: the face is white, but the ruff elegantly edged by a rufous or chesnut verge intermixed with white: the eyes are glaucous: the quill-feathers barred with pale brown, and the tail slightly crossed by brownish freckles: the whole under parts are white, sometimes marked by a few

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BARN OWL

1808 Sep.r 1. London Published by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

small blackish or dusky spots. This species however sometimes varies in having the under parts yellowish: the legs are feathered or plumed to the toes, which are covered by fine hair.

It would be unnecessary to dwell long on the manners of so common an inhabitant of our own country, where every village is acquainted with its general history, which cannot be better stated than in the words of Mr. Pennant, who observes that "this species is almost domestic: inhabiting for the greatest part of the year, barns, hay-lofts, and other outhouses; and is as useful in clearing those places from mice as the congenial cat: towards twilight it quits its perch, and takes a regular circuit round the fields, skimming along the ground in quest of field mice, and then returns to its usual residence. In the breeding season it takes to the eaves of churches, holes in lofty buildings, or hollows of trees. During the time the young are in the nest, the male and female alternately sally out in quest of food, make their circuit, beat the fields with the regularity of a spaniel, and drop instantly on their prey in the grass. They very seldom stay out above five minutes; return with the prey in their claws; but as it is necessary to shift it into their bill, they always alight for that purpose on the roof, before they attempt to enter their nest. This species, I believe, does not hoot; but snores and hisses in a violent manner; and while it flies along, will often scream most tremendously. Its only food is mice: as the young

of these birds keep their nest for a great length of time, and are fed even long after they can fly, many hundreds of mice will scarcely suffice to supply them with food." Mr. Pennant farther observes, that the usual weight of this species is eleven ounces, its lengthfourteen inches, its breadth three feet, and that the middle claw is serrated.

GEORGIAN OWL.

Strix Georgica. *S. fusca subflavo fasciata, gula pectoreque albido-fasciatis, abdomine albido maculis ferrugineis.*

Brown Owl, with yellowish bars, throat and breast with whitish bands, and whitish abdomen with ferruginous spots.

Strix Georgica. Georgian Owl. *Lath. suppl.* 2.

Size of the Barn Owl: thighs and legs clothed with woolly down, with small blackish spots: quill and tail feathers crossed by four or five white bands. Native of Georgia in North America.

ASIATIC

CAYENNE OWL.

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ST. DOMINGO OWL.

Strix Dominicensis. *S. fusco-varia, rostro magno, abdomine rufo, pectore maculis sparsis longitudinalibus.*
Brown variegated Owl, with large bill, rufous abdomen, and breast with longitudinal scattered spots.
La Chouette ou Grande Cheveche de Saint-Domingue. *Buff. ois.*

Considerably allied, according to Buffon, to the *Chouette*, (Wood Owl,) but differs in having a larger, stronger, and more curved bill than any other Owl, and in having the abdomen of a plain rufous colour. Said to inhabit St. Domingo.

CAYENNE OWL.

Strix Cayana. *S. rufa lineis innumeris transversis fuscis undulata.*
Rufous Owl, undulated by innumerable transverse brown lines.
Le Chathuant de Cayenne. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 442.
Strix Cayanensis. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Cayenne Owl. *Lath. syn.*

Size of the Wood Owl: bill flesh-coloured: feathers surrounding the eyes cinereous: irides yellow: feet naked and rather slender. Native of Cayenne.

BOOBOOK OWL.

Strix Boobook. *S. fusco-ferruginea maculis flavescentibus, subtus ferruginea maculis longitudinalibus.*
Ferruginous-brown Owl, with yellowish spots, beneath ferruginous with longitudinal spots.
Strix Boobook. Boobook Owl. *Lath. suppl.* 2.

Size of the Wood Owl, to which it is allied: thighs and legs covered with yellow downy feathers speckled with black: bill small. Native of New Holland, where it is known by the name of Boobook.

SOLOGNESE OWL.

Strix Soloniensis. *S. corpore supra ex atro fusco, fulvo admisto, subtus albo, cauda alba versus apicem lineis nigricantibus decussantibus. Lin. Gmel.*
Owl with the body of a dark brown above, mixed with fulvous; the under parts and tail white, the latter marked towards the tip by blackish decussating lines.
Noctua minor dorso ferrugineo, ventre albido. *Salerne orn. p. 56.*

Length fifteen inches: top of the head and outer circle of the face rufous and white mixed: legs and thighs short, and feathered to the toes. Observed in the district of Sologne in France.

MOUNTAIN OWL.

Strix montana, *S. cinerea, gula orbitisque nigris, iridibus flavis, cauda subelongata.*
Cinereous Owl, with the throat and orbits black; the irides yellow, and the tail subelongated.
Mountain Owl. *Lath. suppl.* Strix barbata. *Lath. ind. orn.*

NATIVE of Siberia: allied to the Aluco Owl: bill yellow: inhabits mountainous regions.

FERNANDEZIAN OWL.

Strix Fernandica. *S. corpore fulvo, albo fusco & nigro vario, oculis nigris, palpebris cæruleis. Lin. Gmel.*
Owl with fulvous body, variegated with white, brown, and black; with black eyes and blue eyelids.
Strix Chichictli. *Lath. ind. orn.*

SAID to be of very full plumage, appearing as large as a Hen: legs feathered. Slightly described by Fernandez in his History of New Spain, of which region it is a native.

TRANSATLANTIC OWL.

Strix Transatlantica. *S. corpore nigro flavescente albo fulvoque vario, subtus albo.*
Owl with body variegated above by black, pale yellow, white, and fulvous; beneath white.
Strix Tolchiquatli. *Lin. Gmel.*

This seems much allied to the preceding, and is said to be a bird of very full plumage: the under wing-coverts are black, mixed with fulvous: bill black: legs covered by fulvous feathers. Slightly described by Fernandez under the name of *Tolchiquatli.* Native of Mexico.

PASSERINE OWL.

Strix passerina. *S. subolivaceo-fusca albido maculata, subtus albida fusco maculata, remigibus albo-fasciatis, iridibus flavis.*
Subolivaceous brown Owl, with whitish spots, beneath whitish with brown spots, wing-feathers barred with white, and yellow irides.
Strix passerina. *S. capite lævi, remigibus maculis albis quinque ordinum. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Little Owl. *Will. orn. Penn. Brit. Zool.*
Little Owl. *Edw. pl.* 228.

Size that of a Missel Thrush: length about eight inches and a half: colour on the upper parts olive-brown, with lighter and deeper variegations: wings varied with pale brown; the coverts with numerous round whitish spots: the scapulars deep

brown, with large curved or lunated white bars: larger quill-feathers barred with the same colour: face whitish, with small oblong dark streaks: head deep brown, with a white streak on the shaft of each feather: ridge of the wings white: under parts whitish, but marked on the breast and sides with numerous lunated or somewhat heart-shaped brown spots: tail short, barred with deep and pale brown: legs whitish, and covered to the claws with small hair-like plumes: bill horn-colour, with paler tip: irides yellow: orbits surrounded with long black hairs.

This species is found in many parts of Europe, but is very rare in England. It appears to vary, not only in the cast of its plumage, but in the colour of its irides, which in some specimens are said to be black or dark blue; and such birds are observed to be of a darker colour than those in which the irides are yellow. The Passerine Owl frequents ruins, and is said to deposit its eggs in such situations more frequently than in trees. It is a bird of a very wild disposition, and the young, when taken even in the earliest state, soon exhibit a ferocious character, and differ totally in temper and manners from those of the Scops or Little Horned Owl. Of this we are assured by Spallanzani, who reared these birds, in order to become acquainted with their instinct and habits.

NEW ZEALAND OWL.

Strix fulva. *S. fusca, marginibus pennarum genisque fulvis, cauda fasciis pallentibus.*
Brown Owl, with the cheeks and margins of the feathers fulvous, and the tail crossed by pale bars.
Strix fulva. New Zealand Owl. *Lath.*

Length eleven inches: upper parts brown margined with fulvous: breast and belly the same, but paler: cheeks fulvous: thighs brown spotted with white: tail crossed with pale-brown bands. Native of New Zealand. It is said to vary in being spotted above with white.

ACADIAN OWL.

Strix Acadiensis. *S. fusco-ferruginea albo maculata, subtus subalbida maculis ferrugineis, facie cinerea.*
Ferruginous-brown Owl, spotted with white, beneath subalbescent spotted with ferruginous, with grey face.
Strix Acadiensis. Acadian Owl. *Lath.*

Length seven inches: feathers surrounding the eyes and composing the face ash-colour, but the part immediately surrounding each eye black; and the outer part of the circle mixed with white: quills spotted with white on their outer edges: legs covered to the toes with buff-coloured feathers. Said to be a native of Nova Scotia.

TENGMALM'S OWL.

Strix Tengmalmi. *S. corpore griseo, maculis pisiformibus albis, iridibus flavis. Lin. Gmel.*
Grey Owl, with pea-shaped white spots, and yellow irides.
Strix Tengmalmi. *Lath. ind. orn.*

Size of a Thrush: bill brown, with a white tip: between the bill and eyes on each side a black streak: face white, varied with brown: body cinereous, with pea-shaped white spots: breast and belly whitish, with dusky variegations: tail deep grey with white stripes: legs feathered to the claws: native of Upland in Sweden: observed by Doctor Tengmalm.

Var.

DWARF OWL.

This, which is described and figured by Monsieur Levaillant under the name of *La Chevechette*, is allied to the immediately preceding, but appears to be considerably smaller, since, according to Levaillant's plate, it can hardly measure more than six inches. Like the preceding it is allied in point of plumage to the Passerine Owl, being of an olive-brown colour, variegated with white: the head speckled, and the neck and coverts dashed with that colour; intermixed with blackish spots: ridge of the wing and tips of the alulet white:

large wing-coverts slightly tipped, the quills barred or spotted, and the tail crossed by four or five narrow bars of white: under parts mixed with white and brown: legs feathered to the claws, and of a yellowish white colour, with oblong black spots: bill and irides yellow. This bird was observed by Levaillant in a collection of dried specimens, and its native country was unknown.

PHALÆNOID OWL.

Strix phalænoides. *S. fulva, tectricibus alarum inferioribus albo maculatis, subtus albo rufoque vario, pedibus hirsutis.*

Fulvous Owl, with the under wing-coverts spotted with white, beneath variegated with rufous and white, with hairy feet.

Strix phalænoides. *Daudin. orn.*

This small species is described by Monsieur Daudin, and measures six inches in length: the bill is blackish; the plumage tawny or subfulvous on the upper parts, and the wing-coverts are marked by six white spots: the cheeks and under parts of the body varied with rufous and white: the wings cover the tail, which is short: the legs are feathered to the claws with reddish plumes. This bird was killed in the island of Trinidad, and is preserved in the Paris Museum.

BARE-LEGGED OWL.

Strix nudipes. *S. corpore supra fusco albo maculato, subtus albo maculis lyriformibus fuscis.*
Owl with brown body spotted with white, beneath white with lyre-shaped brown spots.
Strix nudipes. *Daudin. orn.*

Described by Monsieur Daudin: length seven inches: colour above fulvous brown, with a white spot on each side the neck, and other spots of white on the wing-coverts: the under parts are white, with a longitudinal, lyre-shaped, brown spot on each feather: legs long, naked, and brown. The young are rufous, and the belly whiter than in the full-grown bird. Native of Cayenne.

ACCIPITRINE OWLS.

GREY OWL.

Strix Ulula. *S. rufescens maculis longitudinalibus, subtus albida lineolis fuscis, cauda fusco fasciata, iridibus flavis.*
Rufescent Owl, marked above with longitudinal brown spots, beneath whitish with small brown streaks, and yellow irides.
Strix Ulula? *S. capite lævi, corpore supra fusco-albo maculata, rectricibus fusciis linearibus albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
La Chouette ou Grande Cheveche. *Buff. ois.*
Brown Owl? *Lath. syn.* Grey Owl? *Will. orn.*

THE species here intended is described by Buffon under the name of *La Chouette ou Grande Cheveche.* It is, he observes, pretty common in France, but does not frequent habitations so much as the Barn or White Owl. It haunts quarries, rocks, ruins, and deserted buildings. The colour of its irides, which are of a bright yellow, distinguishes it from the *Aluco* and *Stridula.* The difference however between it and the Barn or White Owl (Effraie) is more slight, since in that bird the irides are yellow also*, and surrounded by a circle of small white feathers: the under part of the belly is tinged with yellow, and the size of the two birds is nearly the same; but the present species is of a deeper colour, and is marked with spots resembling small flames,

* In the English Barn Owl they are dusky blue.

whereas those of the White Owl are like little points or drops, and hence the former has been called *Noctua flammeata*, and the latter *Noctua guttata*. The feet of the present species are more closely covered with feathers; and the bill is brown, while in the Barn Owl it is whitish, and brown only towards the tip. In the present species also the female is marked with smaller spots than the male, and its colours are more dilute. The extreme length of this species is only eleven inches*.

In Monsieur Sonnini's edition of Buffon we have a description of this bird by Monsieur Virey, given in the form of a note. This bird, says he, may be distinguished by the colour of the head, neck, breast, under parts of the body, and flanks, which are whitish, with a faint tinge of red, and slightly clouded with brown: on all the feathers is a longitudinal brown streak: the hind parts of the body, as the rump, and tail-coverts, are of a pale rufous, with earth-brown spots: the belly white: the wing-feathers varied (chamarries) with rufous and brown, with brown *tips*: the tail is marked by transverse brown bars, and a pale yellow down clothes the legs and feet: the iris is yellow: the bill and claws black. The colours of the female are paler, and the brown spots less apparent. The young are of a whitish grey mixed with brown, and afterwards grow rufous.

In the northern parts of Sweden occurs a sup-

* According to Mr. Latham, fifteen and a half; and according to the Gmelian edition of the Systema Naturæ, fourteen inches.

posed variety of this species, figured in the Museum Carlsonianum of Sparrman, under the title of *Strix Arctica.* It differs in being much larger, measuring eighteen inches in length, and of a darker colour, being ferruginous above, with black spots; and beneath marked with black lines or streaks: tail barred with black and ferruginous, and a blackish bar beneath the wings: the orbits of the eyes are also black: the irides, as in the smaller kind, yellow.

CASPIAN OWL.

Strix Caspia. *S. corpore supra lutescente, subtus ex lutescente albo, lituris utrinque longitudinalibus nigricantibus subtus guttatis, iridibus citrinis.*

Subluteous Owl with dusky longitudinal streaks, beneath yellowish white with drop-shaped spots, and yellow irides.

Strix accipitrina. *Lin. Gmel. Pall. it.* 1. *p.* 455.

Caspian Owl. *Lath. syn.*

Described by Dr. Pallas, who discovered it in the desert regions bordering on the Caspian sea. It also inhabits many parts of Siberian Tartary, where it had been observed by Gmelin prior to Pallas. In size it approaches to the Brown Owl. (S. Ulula.) Colour above yellowish, with longitudinal dusky or blackish streaks; beneath paler, with drop-shaped spots: quill-feathers barred with blackish-brown: tail shorter than the wings, rounded, dusky, marked with deeper bands, and edged with whitish: circle of the face white, with black and

yellowish streaks: above the eyes a black spot: legs covered by yellow down: bill black: irides pale yellow. This species deposits its eggs in hollow spots on the bare ground of the Caspian deserts. Mr. Latham, in his *Index Ornithologicus*, considers it as a variety of the *Strix Ulula*.

CANADA OWL.

Strix Canadensis. *S. fusco alboque maculato, subtus fasciolato, cauda albo fasciata.*

Owl on the upper parts spotted, on the under fasciolated with brown and white; the tail barred with white.

Strix funerea? *S. capite lævi, corpore fusco, iridibus flavis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Strix Canadensis. *Briss. av. 1. t. 37. f. 2.*

Canada Owl. *Lath. syn.*

Linnæus describes the present species, which appears to be common to the northern parts of Europe and America, in the following manner. Body brown above, with white spots: the head black above, with white specks: bill white above: breast and abdomen whitish, with linear transverse dusky) streaks: the five first interior quill-feathers not spotted with white on their outer webs: the tail-feathers crossed with narrow whitish bars, the middle feathers scarcely white at the tips.

Brisson describes the Bird in similar terms, adding that the length is thirteen inches, and that the greater quill-feathers are spotted on each side with white, five of the inner ones being plain.

Doctor Forster, who observed it at Hudson's Bay, informs us that the male is larger than the female, with the colours darker and the spots more distinct: its weight twelve ounces, and its length seventeen inches.

HUDSONIAN OWL.

Strix Hudsonia. *S. fusca albo maculata, subtus alba fusco transversim striata, rostro iridibusque fulvis.*
Brown Owl spotted with white, beneath white with transverse linear streaks, and fulvous bill and irides.
Little Hawk Owl. *Edw. pl.* 62.
Strix freti Hudsonis. *Briss.* 1. *p.* 520.
Caparacoch. *Buff. ois.*
Hawk Owl. *Lath. syn.*

The first describer of this species seems to have been Edwards, who has figured it on the sixty-second plate of his excellent ornithological work. "It is rather bigger, says Edwards, than a Sparrow-Hawk, having much the air of a Hawk, from the length of its wings and tail; but the form of the head and feet declare it to be near of kin to the Owl kind. I am told by my friend who brought two of their stuffed skins to me, that they fly and prey at high noon, which is contrary to the nature of most of the Owl kind. The bill is like a Hawk's, but without angles on the sides; of a bright reddish yellow. I am told that the eyes are of the same colour. The spaces round the eyes are white, a little shaded with brown, and dashed with small,

longish, dusky spots: the outsides of these spaces, towards the ears, are encompassed with black: without that again is a little white: the bill is covered almost with light-coloured bristly feathers, as in most of the Owl kind: the top of the head is of a very dark brown, spotted finely with little regular round spots of white: round the neck, and down to the middle of the back, is dark brown, the feathers seeming to be tipped with white: the wings are of a brown colour, the quills and covert-feathers being finely spotted on their outer webs with white: the three quills next the body are not spotted, but have whitish tips: the feathers between the back and wing are painted with broad transverse bars of brown and white: the inner coverts of the wing are white, with transverse lines of brown: the quills withinside are dark ash-colour, with white spots on both webs: the prime quill is spotless within, and without on its outer web, and hath hardly any of that reflecting back of the points of the outer web, as is observed in Owls: the rump and covert-feathers of the tail are dark brown, transversly barred and mixed with a lighter brown: the tail on the upper side is dark brown, and ash-coloured beneath, composed of twelve feathers, the middlemost longer by two inches than the very outermost: it is barred across by seven or eight transverse narrow bars of light brown: the breast, belly, thighs, and coverts under the tail are white, barred across with narrow brown lines, in a regular manner: the legs and feet are

wholly covered with fine soft feathers of the colour of the belly, but the variegating lines smaller: the claws are sharp, crooked, and pointed, of a dark brown colour. There was another of this species brought with this, which was a little bigger, and differed something in colour: it had all the same marks, but not so strong and bright. I suppose it was the female of this. These were brought from Hudson's Bay, where its native name is *Caparacoch.* It preys on white partridges, and other birds, and is so bold as to attend near the fowler with his gun, and will sometimes carry off a partridge after it is shot, before the sportsman can reach his game."

In the Arctic Zoology we are informed that this species is common to North America, Denmark, and Sweden: that it never hatches above two young at a time, which for some months after flight remain of a rusty brown colour.

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URAL OWL

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URAL OWL.

Strix Uralensis. *S. alba supra fusco transversim fasciata et undulata, subtus lineata, cauda fasciis linearibus albis.*
White Owl, above transversly barred and undulated, beneath lineated with brown; the tail crossed by linear white bands.
Strix Uralensis. *Pall. it.* 1. *p.* 455.
Chouette a longue queue de Siberie. *Pl. Enl.* 463.
Ural Owl. *Lath. syn.*

This beautiful bird, if we may judge from the elegant figure in the Planches Enlumineés, must be considered as distinct from the Caparacoch or Hawk-Owl above described. Mr. Latham however, in his Index Ornithologicus, appears inclined to consider it as a variety of that species. The ground-colour of the whole bird is white, but less pure or more inclining to pale brown above than below: the upper parts are transversly undulated with very deep brown or blackish crescent-shaped marks, closest on the head and neck: the under parts barred with similar marks: the wings blackish brown; the coverts bordered with broad bars of white; and the quill-feathers with much narrower ones: the scapular-feathers whitish, with three or four deep brown middle bars; and the tail dark brown, with pretty numerous narrow white bars: the bill is yellow: the legs thickly feathered to the claws, and barred like the head and under parts: down each cheek runs a blackish curved band, as in the Caparacoch, to which the present bird is certainly much allied in general appearance, but seems to have a much more elegant disposition

of colours, and the tail longer in proportion. An observation made by Monsieur Virey, copied, probably, either from Doctor Pallas or Lepechin, seems to militate against the supposition of its being a variety of the Hawk Owl; viz. that the three first wing-feathers are serrated on the outer edge; whereas we shall find, on recurring to Edwards's description of the Hawk Owl, that "the prime quill hath hardly any of that reflecting back of the points of the outer web as is observed in Owls." It is a native of many parts of Siberia, and along the chain of the Ural mountains. Its size is said by Monsieur Virey to be that of the *Hulotte*, (S. Aluco. Lin.) It is observed during severe frost to retire into the cavities of rocks, and does not again make its appearance till the return of fine weather.

AFRICAN OWL.

Strix Africana. *S. subfusca subtus nivea, cauda fasciis numerosis linearibus albis.*

Brownish Owl, snow-white beneath, with the tail crossed by numerous linear white bars.

Le Choucou. *Levaill. ois. pl.* 38.

Falconine Owl. *Lath. syn. suppl.* 2.

In general proportions exactly similar to the immediately preceding species, but is of smaller size, measuring about ten inches in length. Its colour above is an elegant pale brown, the shorter quill-feathers tipped with dull white; the tail

crossed by numerous narrow or linear white bars; the face and whole under parts white, with the shafts of the thigh-feathers dusky, forming a fine streak down each: the bill is black; the irides yellowish-hazel, and the eyes beset on each side the back part with several long diverging vibrissæ or hairs of a black colour. This elegant species is a native of the interior of Africa, appearing only during twilight, and moving with rapid flight. The female is said to be rather smaller than the male, and of a less pure white beneath. On opening the stomach Levaillant observed only the remains of insects, and of a small land frog. This bird, as before observed, emerges only in the evening, and even later than other nocturnal birds of prey. During its flight it skims the surface of the ground, uttering at frequent intervals a sharp cry.

VARIEGATED OWL.

Strix Nisuella. *S. fusco albidoque subtransversim varia, subtus undulata, torque faciali nigro marginata, caudâ cuneata.*

Owl subtransversly variegated with brown and white, beneath undulated; the ruff of the face edged with black, and the tail cuneated.

Le Chou cou hou. *Levaill. ois. pl.* 39.

Variegated Owl. *Lath. suppl.* 2.

Size of S. Otus: habit somewhat approaching to that of the Hawk Owl: colour a subtransverse mixture of dark-brown and white, with a cast of ferruginous: the under parts more closely or narrowly barred than the upper: face white, dashed

with small blackish streaks, the tips of the surrounding feathers black: tail slightly cuneated, and crossed by brown and white bars: legs feathered to the claws: bill dusky: irides yellow. Native of the interior of Africa, where it was observed by Levaillant. It flies only by night, unless when disturbed or driven from its retreat in the woods.

LINEATED OWL.

Strix lineata. *S. nigricans albo transversim lineata, cauda fasciis linearibus distantibus niveis.*

Blackish Owl transversly lineated with white; the tail crossed by distant linear snow-white bars.

Le Huhul. *Levaill. ois. pl.* 41.

Fasciated Owl. *Lath. suppl.* 2.

A most elegant species; allied in some degree to the Caparacoch or Hawk Owl, but of less slender shape, and with a shorter tail in proportion: colour blackish, crossed on all parts with very numerous white lines or narrow bars, which on the head may be rather termed spots: the wings are brown, with narrower and more distant lines than on the body; and the tail, which is of a darker colour than the body, is crossed at considerable distances by narrow subinterrupted bars of pure white. Native of Cayenne, where it is said to fly by day, in the manner of the Caparacoch.

END OF PART I.

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LINEATED OWL.

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